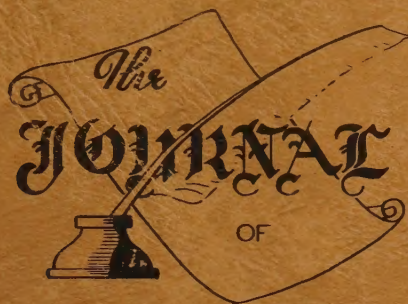
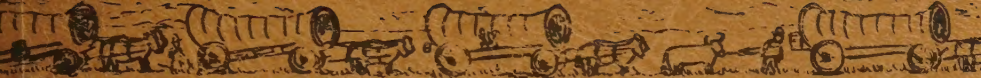


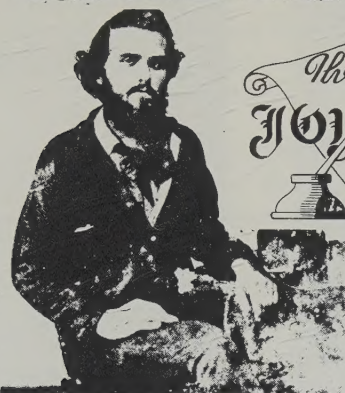
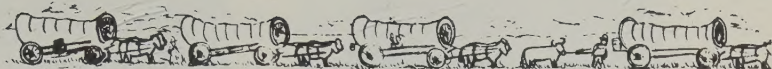


ROYAL PORTER PUTNAM

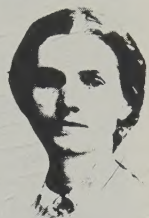
SEPT. 1857 - JULY 1860

Vertical File





ROYAL PORTER PUTNAM
(About 1858)



MARY PACKARD PUTNAM
(About 1864)

ROYAL PORTER PUTNAM

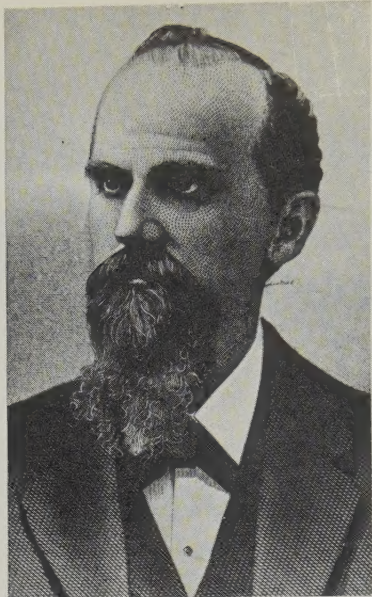
SEPT. 1857 - JULY 1860

WITHDRAWN

Published By

1861 PORTERVILLE CENTENNIAL 1961
THE FARM TRIBUNE

Porterville, California



ROYAL PORTER PUTNAM



MARY JANE PUTNAM



This Was The Beginning of Porterville
Porter Putnam's First Store and Stopping Place - 1861

FOREWORD

The Journal of Royal Porter Putnam represents a personal link with the past, and provides an insite into the early life and thinking of a young man who came West in the year of 1858.

In the pages of this Journal are recounted not only physical experiences, but also the thinking of Porter Putnam — his ambitions, his disappointments, his successes, his failures, his dreams, his moments of despair prior to the time, in 1861, that he decided to settle in the swamplands of the Tule river along the Emigrant Trail, and build a store and stopping place that marked the beginning of the modern City of Porterville.

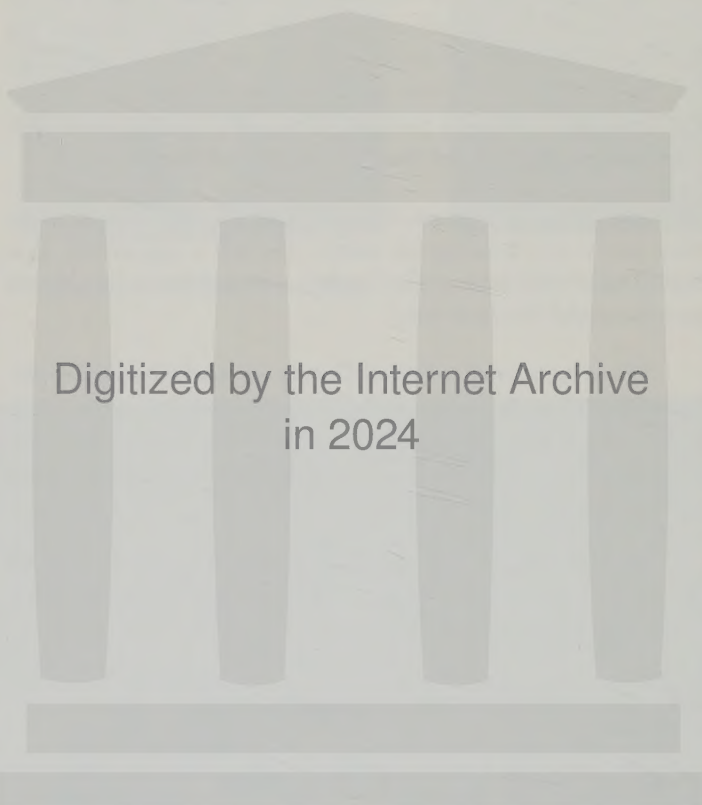
When Porter Putnam died in 1889, he left behind more than just a city bearing his name: He left a reputation as a highly respected community leader; a reputation as an honest and successful business man.

When he arrived in Tulare County on the Butterfield Overland Mail Stage he had virtually no money, but he had courage and vision, and he found opportunity on the rough and often dangerous frontier; when he died his estate was valued at more than a quarter million dollars.

It seems fitting that the Journal of Royal Porter Putnam should be published in this year of 1961 — the Centennial Year of his city — the City of Porterville.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

E. L. Mathy, husband of the late Ila Putnam Mathy
Howard Frame - Bill Reece
Bancroft Library - Porterville City Library



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Sept. 27th, 1857 — Left home with my Uncle Royal for New Orleans. Cordelia Adams accompanied us as far as Cleaveland in Ohio, on her way home. We arrived in New Orleans on Thursday the 8th of October after a long and pleasant journey and a beautiful ride of five hundred miles on the Mississippi. I enjoyed the trip very much.

New Orleans, Decm 10th, 1857. This morning Uncle left for Texas, and I am all alone in this large house and the overseer of five Negroes.

Thursday, Decm 16th /57. This day is Thanksgiving. A great many people throng the streets. The Creoles are celebrating to the best of their knowledge. The City is now in its splendor. Business flourishing.

Friday, Decm 25th 1857. Today is Christmas and I am writing at the Jackson Square where the statue of the great man is erected. The day is splendid and the streets are crowded with people. I spent my Christmas eve at the St. Charles Theater. George, the servant boy will accompany me. At present I am keeping bachelor's hall individually. My Uncle being in Texas. The servants have kindly treated me to a glass of Egg-nog & a chicken pie. How much I enjoyed it, eh!

Saturday the 26th /57. This glorious evening I attended the Museum on St. Charles Street and think profited thereby. The day was lovely. How beautiful is the seet and sunny south, compared to the cold chilly North. May I live long to enjoy its blessings. At home my friends are suffering with the cold, while I am in a second paradise. So let it be.

Tuesday, Decm 29th /57. This morning Uncle arrived from Texas, being absent 19 days. He had a pleasant journey & enjoyed it much. Brought home wild Geese and Ducks, & Found all well at home & in good spirits.

March 21st 1858. Left New Orleans at eight o'clock A.M. on Sunday. Arrived at Berwicks Bay at 2 o'clock P.M. Took the Boat Galveston for Indianola, Texas. Arrived at Galveston City Monday 12 Oclock A.M. We left Galveston on Tuesday morning for Indianola. We were obliged to stay over night at Galveston on the account of heavy wind. A company of ten or twelve left the Boat at night & went to the theater. Saw grand sights — We reached Indianola Tuesday evening. Put up at the Casimire House which is situated on the Bay of Matagorda, and partly on Uncle Royal's land — Uncle has certainly got some beautiful land here & will some day be very valuable I think. Well, I left Indianola Wednesday morning at eight Oclock A.M. in the Stage. A Golly old time we had before we reached our destination. There was two Ladies in the Coach & we as a na-

tural consequence got quite intimate with each other. Lord Bless em.

I did not arrive at this place San Antonio until Friday evening the 26th of March. I remained at San Antonio six days, took a view of all the Country round and bout there. Went over to the Alamo, the place where David Crocket fought with so much bravery, but fell at last after killing some 15 or 20 of his enemies. I admire the place very much. A fine climate & a beautiful country. A great many Mexican live here. Therefore one who does business of any amount ought to understand the Spanish language, as well as the German. I rec'd letters from home at this place. They brought good news & gave me much pleasure in perusing them over — After trying to get employment and failed, I bid adieu to the place and took my exit on the stage bound to Fort Belknap on the Brazos River. I passed through Austin, the Capital of Texas, George Town and Belton.

Arrived at Waco on the 4th of April. Here we were obliged to stay until the 23rd Inst. there being no way to get conveyance up to The Fort Belknap, some two hundred miles further up the river. At length an ambulance was sent down to us and soon as possible we packed our tricks and took leave of fair Waco and her lovely Daughters & started on our way rejoicing. The country I passed through from San Antonio until I reached Waco I think was far superior to any I ever saw. Smith is the name of the Land Lord I stopped with at Waco. A fine man. We arrived at Fort Belknap on the first of May, Making eight days on the road. My first night camping on the Cold damp ground came awful hard to me but a very little sleep did I get that night. I thought during the night I could never get used to that kind of fare. Eddy my companion was just about the same as myself. Always lived in a white country & one that afforded a little more convenience.

However, I am now all right & so is my friend. We can pitche our tent in the Wilderness & be at home. We soon got our hips hardened & our appetite sharpened & was one of the Bi-Hogs. The Indians have murdered two or three families in this vicinity and the Souldiers and Rangers are out hunting for the Black Devils of the forest, hope they catch them & do justice to their kind. Fort Belknap is quite a pleasant place. The Settlers on the border of Town have all come to the Fort for protection. The Comanche Indians are very Hostile about here at the present time. In coming to Fort Belknap we passed through Fort Graham & Wetherford; Belknap is two hundred miles above Waco on the Brazos River.

Wednesday the 5th day of May we left the Fort en rout for El Paso with 151 head of Cattle 17 Waggon & 35 mules.

Our company consisted of 29 men and Mr. McKinnons family. We reached Camp Cooper on Saturday the 9th Inst. it being only 35 miles from Fort Belknap. At this place lives the Indian Agent & a large ranch of Indians. I need not say we had a happy time among the Women or the squaws.

Sunday the 9th of May. I will long remember the day & its preceeding. When I awake in the morning it was raining & it continued to rain all day, consequently we did not leave Camp, but all took a little stimulating bitters in order to stand the storm better. The rain still descended in large drops & was not long in getting us nicely wet, by this time we had got the inside thoroughly soaked with our bitters & a pleasing sensation was about leading them all astray & I can say truly it did, including myself, of course. The day was cold and I suffered much from the effects of that day. Cleark-Fork River runs through this place, a beautiful stream well filled with fish. We arrived at Phantom Hill on Wednesday the 13th Inst. Camped over night there. A fine stream runs through here by the name of Elk Creek. There has been soldiers stationed here & they built up quite a Town, but when they abandoned the plan they burnt the Houses and destroyed the place entirely. Phantom Hill is $38\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Camp Cooper.

Friday the 14th. The last two days have been very windy and quiet unpleasant traveling. Today we have killed two Rattle Snakes & seen more. We have also seen plenty of Antelope, Deer and Buffalo. I hope Wind would leave off blowing & become pleasant again, for my lips are now chapped so they bleed which is very disagreeable. We have been traveling as yet mostly on the Prarie. Some magnificent Scenery met our view.

Saturday the 13th of May. We Camped by a stream which afforded us with water & all the fish we could find use for, which was no small number. I had to stand guard last night. A splendid time to study Astronomy.

It is Sunday the 16th Inst. By the Will of God we have spent this day, This Glorious day in traveling 18 miles, it being the largest days drive we have done. We passed through Fort Chadbourne about two o'clock P.M. It is a beautiful place & will probably be a large city in course of time. There is now stationed here 300 hundred soldiers. Fort Chadbourne is twelve miles from the River Colorado & 150 miles from Fort Belknap. A small creek runs through the place by the name of Oak creek a nice clear stream of water. I bought me Hot at Chadbourne, which cost me \$2 Dollars & a half & its real worth was a bout six shillings in any enlightened country.

Monday the 17th May 1858. This morning we reached the

Colorado & camped on its banks. Our company caught a large quantity of Fish. Some of them were two feet in length. We also killed a Beef Critter & had plenty of fresh meat. The Weather is beautiful. We have been traveling over hills & through Vallies for the last two days. A magnificent sight it is. There is some very large Gnars in the Colorado; not good to eat.

Tuesday We still remain on our old camping ground on the Colorado for the purpose of drying our Beef & recruiting our stock. The boys have been fishing & hunting most of the day. Col. McCinnor caught one cat fish which was $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length & it's weight 60th.

The Colorado river is very salty & not fit to use. We could not fine but a little good water here. A boy by the name of Wisdom, and Williams, had a fist fight this morning in camp. A healthy exercise before breakfast, well as beneficial.

Wednesday 19th May /58 This day we have reached Great Creek it being $14\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the Colorado. We have had one long & high hill to ascend Which was quite unpleasant & very difficult. I have seen a Bear and had the pleasure of shooting at a skunk to day Quite romantic. The weather is warm & pleasant. We have an extrayordinary plan for Camping this evening. The creek supplies us with fish. It is my time to stand guard to night, hope I shall not kill anybody.

Thursday the 20th /58 Under the pleasant circumstances we have traveled $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles to day. We crossed the north branch of the Concho river at noon. Camped on its banks and took dinner there. It is 8 miles from here to Great Creek. At three Oclock P.M. We started again & traveled until nine Oclock at night, then camped, no water. During the day we found two stray Cows, caught two Rabbits & captured one Prarie Dog. A very successful day it has been, eh! The sun has shown quite warm, & everything looks beautiful. On the Concho the percons trees grow in abundance.

Friday the 21st May /58 We were up this morning by day break and on the road rejoicing. We arrived at the main Concho river at 11 Oclock A.M. where we camped for Dinner. The distance between the North branch & main stream is 18 miles. The County in this section is not so good as might be. Yet probably will do for what lives on it. Rattle Snakes is one of its chief inhabitants. We have killed five or six today. I have met with quite a misfortune today, stuck a knife in my foot accidentally when I was in the stream Bathing. The wound is very deep & I fear much trouble from it, well as pain. I have been enjoying myself in eating cranberries, Mulberries & Black Currants Which we found in abundance on the way. We are having plenty of

fish now-a-days. Have come $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles this day. Gone some three miles off our course. Boys in camp are all well & having a jolly time.

Saturday 22d of May /58 Under the present arrangement there has been but one drive made to day. We have traveled in sight of the Conchos all day. There has been a number of Rattle Snakes killed to day by the boys. Captain Holliday has been very fortunate in capturing an Indian horse (As we suppose) him to be. The Horse had a halter on when found. We have seen fresh signs of Indians on our road to day, but hope we shall not have an attack by them. This distance we have come this day is $17\frac{1}{2}$ miles along tedious drive. Our Camping Ground is very pleasant considering. Weather appears like rain. Though what do I care, let it come. Amen.

Sunday the 23d of May /58 We have all been spared to witness another Sabbath day, Yet I fear we do not keep it holy as we ought. The day is pleasant, & we have crossed the Conchos again a bout 26 miles from where we did before. We are camping on its banks. Arrived at 10 A.M. & intend to leave at 6 O'clock P.M. Mr. Wallace is shoeing the Wild Horse of the Prairie that was caught by the Captain of our train. J. E. Eddy, the jeweler is trying to take a knap, but will hardly make it out I think. The Waggon that he is lying under is loaded with Alcohol and works much against him. Maise and Brownson is out herding & will remain there untill Eddy & Myself secure our dinners, when we will release them. There is abundance of Black currants in this section, they are the largest and finest I ever saw. We still have fish in large quantities. It was 9 O'clock P.M. before we camped. There is no water on our camp ground. The distance we have moved is $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Monday May, 24th /58. Again we were up by the brake of day, and on our way across the desolate plains of Texas. We have made two drives this day. Camped on the branch of the Chonoho for breakfast, & then went on to the Kioway Creek, making in all $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Tuesday May 25th /58. Blessed be our redeemer for this day rest. We are now camped on Kioway Creek where there is plenty of fish, Wild Turkeys & Berries of different kinds. We spend the day here & intend to remain until 3 O'clock P.M. tomorrow. This fore noon I spend on herd and have been washing my clothes this afternoon, quite industrious. — It has been a washing day in camp & every one had got on a clean shirt, the day has been very warm. Sun scoarching. — A number of boys are feeling quite rich, from the effects of a little Alcohol and water to drink. Yet I am happy to day there has not one drop of intoxicating fluid entered my stomach since we left Fort

Chadborne. I forgot to mention Yesterday that I found a cow & calf, the Cow has a noble bag & will give us all the milk we want if properly attended to. —

Wednesday the 26th of May 1858. — By the good will of our Maker we have been favored again with a clear and bright sky. We abandon our old camping ground on Kioway Creek at 4 O'clock at night, & then we were obliged to stop on account of losing our Road. It was a beautiful night to travel & we were sorry to be under the necessity of camping. However it will not be any disadvantage to us for we have found plenty of Water here in the Chamanche Creek (as I call it). The day has been uncomfortable hot, very much so. We filled our Rigs and Barrels with water at Kioway Creek, thinking that would be the last water we should get until we reached the Pecos River. We have rolled over the Prairie the distance of 10 miles. I cut my name in large letters on a tree beside the Kioway Creek, May it stay there until I Come again —

Thursday the 27th of May /58. I feel too sleepy to note down anything that has transpired on our travel this day. Yet I will try & do it. Left camp in the Afternoon & jogged along on the road until about 3 O'clock at night A.M. We passed Mustang pond before dark, at this place we saw a drove of wild Horses or mustangs, it being the first I ever saw or has been seen on our way. At first we thought of Indians & prepared to meet them, but soon found out to the contrary. I have killed one of these Prairie dogs again to day. The weather is exceeding hot I feel a little under the weather, but hope I will come all right when we reach the Pecos. The Captain is sick, says he will die in two days. The boys are all right. We came last evening 28½ miles. Oh how sleepy I am.

Friday 28th of May /58 — We arose this morning at sun-up with only two hours sleep. What would I give not to be disturbed, but it cannot be helped. We must go or all perish on the Desert. Soon as breakfast was over our teams were put to the Waggon & traveled until two or three O'clock P.M. making 15 miles at one drive. We then camped until about sun down. When we all started again. A worse looking set of men you never saw than we are. Our fare has no features of a white man we are completely covered with dust & dirt. Road very bad. I had the pleasure of riding in the Ambulance this forenoon, did sleep a little, there is no timber or wood of any kind about here, scarcely enough to make a fire with. Our stock is suffering greatly for the want of water. We left this evening at the appointed time and traveled all night & next day until about 4 O'clock P.M. Making the distance of 90 miles across the Desert in 48 hours. The Mules & loose herd reached the Pecos in 43 hours. We only lost two steers on the Desert & they dropped in a few hundred yards of the River.

May 28th (continued) — Our waggons that were loaded & hauled by the Oxen we had to leave 3 miles back on the Desert for the cattle gave out & were not able to bring them in. I think we traveled on Friday 25½ miles & on Saturday 25 making 50½ we came without stoping only long enough to take a bite to eat. A very long drive that for Oxen. Friday night we met a company of 20 men on their way home from an exploring expedition party that organized & started some two months ago in search of Gold in the North Western part of Texas. The company consisted of 90 men when it first started. They had made no discovery of any water when the party of 80 men left for their Quiet homes. The remainder of the party were prospecting on the head waters of the Pecos. We passed through the Castle mountains just at the peep of day. They are 12 miles from the River Pecos & can be seen some 60 or 80 miles. When we entered the canion our mules began to be a little fractious & we let them come through in a hurry. We were affraid of meeting Indians there. A great place for them it would be. We found an emigrant train recruiting at the River when we arrive. They had just been a head of us all the way from the River Brazas. There is 13 men of them, 6 or 8 children and a number of Women. One man is supplied with two women that I know of. I envy him the Comfort he must enjoy from the two While we poor D—ls are not blessed with one. How hard.

Sunday 30th of May — 1858. To day we drove the cattle back to the River. The boy that was left to guard the waggons had a regular "bust last light. They drank the Liquor all up that the Captain gave them & then stole more & the consequence was that one of the boys got his discharge this morning, by the name of Gum. I won 2 Bottle of Brandy betting.

Wednesday 2d of June, 1858. — We left our Camp early this morning — put out for water which we reached at one O'clock P.M. & traveled about 10 miles. Chamanche Creek is the name of the stream. We left again this afternoon at 4 P.M. & travelled on until 10 O'clock, when we Camped, making in all today 17½ miles. This creek is a beautiful stream of water though a little sulphury. The head of the stream is not far from here. The stream sinks and is not seen for 15 miles. Our camp is at the place where it first rises. Benjamin Maire fell a sleep last night & his Jack ass or Mule got away from him & he had to walk fore a while before he caught up with us, only good exercise, that is all. It is damned dusty for me, that is all.

Thursday the 3d of June 1858. I awake this morning quite unwell. My Bowels are paining me very much. I have never had them pain me so before. The Diarreauh has also set in & I think I would sell myself for one bit or so. We left Camp at the usual hour and traveled 6½ miles when we struck the San Antonio

Road at the head of the Camancha Creek. Called the Camancha Springs. I tied my Mule to the waggon & road all this fore noone for I was not able to help drive the cattle. The Boys are now killing a Beef & I am out on herd, waiting patiently for them to get through with their work & get the Dinner so I can come into camp. The day is uncomfortable hot. The spring are boiling & the water clean as cristal. There is quite a number of Fish in them I noticed. These Springs are 350 miles from San Antonio and 250 miles from El Paso. The Emigrants are still close by us. We are having a little rain and a great deal of thunder . . I feel quite revived from my sickness.

By the way, we were just agoing to have a little fight as we supposed with the Indians. We all got our guns & prepared for the occasion, then started to meet them & have a Devil of a fight. Yet we were happily disappointed in finding them to be American friends. They were just returning to San Antonio where they had started with a load of Freight for El Paso. We parted from the Springs this evening & traveled until it was very dark. 12 miles is all we have come to day. Our Camp is between the spring & Leone's hole. There is no water here. Leone's hole is nine miles distance. There is said to be no bottom to these holes. A Californian run his waggon in one of them to soak over night, but to his great surprise he found no Waggon in the morning. It has gone down to the lower regions. —

Friday the 4th of June 1858. — This morning we put out early & reached Leone holes at 9 Oclock A.M. We stayed there until 2 Oclock P.M. when we started off and jogged along until two Oclock at night A.M. We were all very tired and needed rest. From Leones Holes there is a watering place 10 miles on the road. We have come 21½ miles to day.

Saturday the 5th of June 1858. — The Captain has us up this Morning by day light & soon as Breakfast was over we started & traveled a bout all day before we reached Limpia Creek. It being 22 miles from our last camp. Our Camp is on the Limpia Creek between the Limpia mountains it being 20¼ miles from Leone Holes here. The distance we come without water. The Country is Mountainous & very poor. We passed by a white woman grave to day. She was killed by the Indians. I have murdered a large Rattle snake this evening. Had 9 Rattles. I am to stand guard to night, pittty the Indian that shows himself, for he would surely get a little takin in. I was quite cold this morning but the day has been scorching hot. —

Sunday the 6th of June 1858. — I happy to say that our God has protected us from all harm on this lonely & dangerous plain for an other week. We have passed by many dangerous places & where a great many white men have lost their lives by the wild Indians.

We certainly ought to feel grateful to our Maker & Preserver. — Our travel today has not been only 18 miles & that mostly through the Canion of the Limpia Mountains. The Mountains are very high & Rocky. There is no wood upon them. Silver has been discovered by the Mexicans. Yet there is no one at work in them now. It is very dangerous. We met in the canion a company of Soldiers who were on their way to join Popes Company, who are digging an Artesian well, somewhere near the River Pecos, not far from the Horse Head Crossing. — Wm. Dennison is very sick, though not dangerous. Our Camp is twelve miles from Fort Davis in the Canion. There is Mountains all around us. A very romantic place. The boys have been to the top of one of largest Monts. and rolled stones down. How Grand. Nothing more at present, for I'm d—ned tired.

Monday the 7th June /58. — We were all right this morning & on our road soon as possible. The distance we have passed over is 10 miles & all the way between Mountains of the Limpia. We arrived at Fort Davis at one O'clock P.M. I Bought me a pair of Boots at the settler Store here. Paid \$6.00 Dollars for them. A damned big price for the kind. This Morning we met a number of returning Californians on their way home to the States. Our road is quite ruff. There is 6 companies at the Fort, two companies are now After Indians. I found me a pair of Mexican spurs this morning & sold them to Brownson for One Dollar.

Tuesday the 8th /58: — When I woke this morning the rain was beating down upon us & into my face in a manner very unpleasant to the sleeper. Consequently, I changed my position and stood erect, so the rain would have some chance to run off. The day is Gloomy the heavens are filled with thick heavy clouds & all is dismal. It appears to me like a long dreary rain. — An old Mexican was in camp this morning trying to sell some milk at 10c a qt. We purchased a small quantity. We remain at this place today. A number of the boys are Drunk & some are Fighting & others have been. Col. McCinnon was about to fight a dual with Jack Steward, but they were separated by the Captain. I have wrote a letter to Perley today. Fort Davis is walled in on three sides by the Mountains, The Soldiers have a Theatre there & the Town is Kept clean & nice. Young is the mans name that ownes the store there.

Wednesday the 9th of June 1858. — There has nothing of any importance transpired to day we have traveled 15 miles from the Fort. Met the Main party going down & two other parties bound for San Antonio. A company of Popes men came into Fort Davis to day for supplies. They report they are about to give up the well digging on the Pecos, & try some other place. They have dug down now some 15 hundred feet but find no water. The country still remains hilly. There is no watering place, here a tour camp for our stock.

Thursday the 10th of June 1858. — We traveled on this morning until we reached Barrels Springs, it being the first watering place from Fort Davis and nearly 30 miles there. We camped here a bout noon, made out to get water for all our stock. As soon as we all finished our meals the teams were drove up and in a few minutes we were rolling on toward the Rio Grande. We came far as Smith run, where we camped but found no water. Good feed. It is my time to stand guard to night. Willard has lost his large Dirk Knife. A great pity. We have come 17 miles this day.

Friday the 11th 1858. — All hands arose by the break of day & by the time it was fairly light we could be seen jogging on our way. Some in fine spirits while others were dragging along sick, sad, and lonely. We came as far as the Dead Mans hole, it being only five miles from Smith run. Here we camped for our breakfast and to water our stock. There is a beautiful spring here & in a romantic place. We can hardly get enough water here for our stock. Our Barrels and Kegs are full of this splendid water & we are now prepared for another long stretch. The weather has been Hot, Hotter, Hottest for the last three days. Mr. Maise the man that got drunk at Fort Davis and got his Craneum out & bruised very bad, he is now walking around camp with his eyes partly shut, A handkerchief around his head & his neck is so stiff that he can not turn his head unless his whole body goes with it. A pretty looking Subject he be out in this Indian Country, worse than 15 hundred miles from nowhere. We left the Dead Mans hole or the Mertra in the evening and traveled on untill nearly morning. Making this day . . . the number of 20½ miles. Between the Barrels springs and the Metro it is 15 miles.

Saturday the 12th of June, 1858.—The Captain again rated us by the peep of day, and soon as necessities of life were finished we were at our old work moving over the dreary Plains of Texas. We found no water at our last camp nor will not find any until we reach 'Van Hornes Wells' which is 34 miles from the Metro. We arrived at Van Hornes wells in the afternoon, found the weather a very little better & . . . our stock were not half supplied with it. We absconded from the lonesome place at the set of Sun, thinking that we should loose a great many of our cattle before we reach Eagle Springs. By the good will of God there had been a large train in front of us and directly on our way, which had filled up the Sunken places & all holes with water. Consequently our stock were well supplied with the most needed element. We camped by the hour of midnight on the damp cold ground & were soon wraped in the hands of innocent sleep. We have made 24 miles on our journey to day. The day had been hot & the country ruff.

Sunday the 13th inst. 1858. — Last night proved to be a disagreeable night to me. I was disturbed & waken by one of the detested ground ants crawling into my ear & before I could get my hands free from under the Blankets this little retch had placed himself far into my head, which frightened me much besides causing a sensation far from being pleasant. I called on the Doctor & there was not any thing done more than pour a little water into my ear. I was in great misery for a spell, or at least until this cursed varment breathed his last. During this time I thought of home & my friends & would have given all I possessed in this world to have been with them. Soon as we eat Breakfast our teams were brought to their business & we moved on for Eagle Springs & reached there by the time we generally dine, at one O'clock P.M. Here we found plenty of refreshing beverage for all of our stock. This is 22 miles from Van Hornes Wells. There is a companw of seven men here. They have just returned from California. They talk very discouraging of Country. — I am getting tired of traveling in this way & I think I shall never try it again if I get through with this damnable trip. We have made $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles to day & shall remain here at the Springs tonight. There was two white men killed here by the Indians & their graves are a few rods from our Camp. Those men were on their way to California. How sad it is to think of their awful fate. We know not how soon we may be called to our long home by the wild Indian arrow. He flirts it with much force & death is written upon its point.

Monday the 14th of June 1858. — The returned Californians left here early this morning wishing us all success. We remained untill nearly night before we started. They day is warm. We had a number of mules stray a way last night. The boys are now looking for them. I feel much better this morning than I did Yesterday. Those mules, Our Captain has concluded have run off & been stolen by the Indians. We found where they took them off, saw Mexicans tracks & concluded they had gone to D—I and would not follow them. There was three mules and one horse that the Camancha Indian got from us, not much of a haul out of such a drove as we have along. — The boys were on guard at the time they were run off, but did not see them. We traveled untill nearly morning making 21 miles.

Tuesday the 15th of June 1858. — We left camp early this morning & started on for the Rio Grande it being the nearest watering place from Eagle Springs & 30 miles distance. We arrived at the River between the hours of twelve and one O'clock, found a large stream of Water and not brackish. In coming here from the springs we passed through a ruff Canon. Some six months ago a small company was chased all the way through by the wild Indians. They shot two or three of the men, but not

fatal. They lost two of their mules that was shot so bad they could not travel. I have seen one of the men and he says they all expected death but was not gong to give up with out a Struggle. They all escaped with their lives & are honored with fighting with so much bravery. From Our Camp I can look over into Mexico for the first time. Have a beautiful view of the Flounced Mountaing. We have come 12 miles to day through the Canion of the Caskill Mountains. A Hazard looking place I assure you. — There is lots of Misquitos here & I reckon there will be some one disturbed of their rest to night, Adieu untill to morrow.

Wednesday 16th June 1858. — Yesterday evening I done my washing, a tiresome job besides being quite painful, for I have rubbed the skin off my knuckles. While eating breakfast there came a train from El Passo & Camped close to us. They are all Mexicans. I found me a mule to day but he only had three legs. What a pitty to be in so bad luck all the time, why not had four legs & been all right. — There was one of the mules got Mired on the bank of the river. It took a long time to release him. We left Camp a bout 3 Oclock P.M. & traveled until sun down making $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Our road is now close to the Rio Grande all the way to El Passo.

Thursday the 17th June /58. — As usual we left this morning before breakfast & traveled & half starved until midday before we stopped. It gave the boys all a good appetite & caused them to grumble a little. We have met another train here. McHenry of San Antonio is the Captain & owner. He has made a trip to El Passo & thinks he will clear 400 Dollars. We have come through what is called Je Hosse fat Valley, it being where the old fellow camped once in his life. The land is very rich on the Rio Grande Valley. The Valley is 10 to 20 miles wide. Cotton Wood trees is the principle wood along the river the only place there does any thing grow. We made two drives this day. Come $19\frac{1}{4}$ miles. We struck the River some 85 miles from El Passo the first time remember.

Friday the 18th of June. — We left Camp by day light and drove to the Missions Camp before breakfast, it being only 3 or 4 miles distant. This place is just opposite of the Flounced Mountains. Our Camp . . . its name, it being where a company of the Old Missionaries Camped & recruited up. We have lost 3 head of cattle Though fortunately we found them the next day. After . . . a long tedious trip as well as a little dangerous. The Captain from here sent our Doctor party & Col. McCinnon family on a head of the main train. Also the Clerk & Commisary together with one or two more of the hands. They will go as far as Mesilla before they stop for good, probably get there a week before we do. — Having no road meter now we have to guess at

the distance we travel. We think we have come only 7 miles today.

Saturday the 19th of June 1858. — This morning we left camp early & drove far as Santo natia for breakfast a distance of 7 miles. This is a Mexican town & the largest portion of it is in Mexico. I had for Dinner to day Beans, Green Peas, & Coffee, Bacon Beef, Onions, Chicken Pie & Baked Pork. What more could you call for in the Wilderness. For My self I think my self lucky to get that. You see the Beans keep me lively & the Pork cheers us on our journey, While the Onions Gives us quite a nutritious stink. How happy we ought to feel after having all of those luxurious Combined. — We have layed the distance at 12 miles to day. We leave at Smith ranch 17 head of cattle. This is fortunate for the herders.

Sunday the 20th June 1858. — We made a drive this morning of six miles before breakfast. Left in the afternoon and traveled until sun down, making in all to day a bout 12 miles. I took a Bath in the Rio Grande to day, had a pleasant swim. We now see plenty of Mexicans and their way of planting corn. The U.S. Mail passed again on their way to El Passo. An other large train we met going down to San Antonio to day — The Mexican corn fields that we have passed to day have no fences around them. They don't half cultivate their land. The land is very rich here & easy to Earrigate.

Monday the 21st of June 1858. — Last night we had a heavy rain, which made it very unpleasant sleeping out of doors, where there is nothing but the canopy of heaven to cover us. We made one drive before we satisfied our stomachs; reached the Mexican town called Samoza-ah. This is a beautiful country. We left camp in the after noon & traveled on Passing Mexican tents all along the road. Our days travel we reckon 18 miles. If you believe me I saw some pretty Spanish Daughters, how inviting they looked. Oh if I could but enjoy the sweet comfort of those Dear Creatures, it would be some encouragement to live, but what is life to a wandering boy far among strangers and toiling away every day for his support.

Tuesday the 22d of June 1858. — We have traveled through Mexican Villages to day and about 2 Oclock P.M. we reached Franklin, just opposite of El Passo. Here I received four letters, one from Uncle Royal, one from Helen Manton one from DYantha Gray & Rufus Adams. I was looking for a letter from home but got disappointed. We made but a short stop in town and camped about seven miles up the river, on our way to Melisas. The number of miles is 20 that we have rolled over to day.

Wednesday the 23d 1858. I arraise very early this morning after a disagreeable night rest, caused by the cursed misquitos

& a heavy rain storm. I never saw the misquitos so thick as they are in this Valley. There was one mule stolen last night, he was taken from inside of the Correl & one that James F. Eddy rode. We think that a Mexican did it, for Indians never would come in camp & cut the rope as that was did. The weather for the passed week or so has been extraordinary hot. The Crops in this part of the world are looking fine. We have come at least 15 miles to day.

Thursday, the 24th June /58. — We left camp after breakfast feeling quite revived, the misquitos did not trouble me any last evening for I had three fires around my bed. We came far as Fort Fillmore to day it being 50 miles from El Passo. We judge we have made 20 miles this days drive. Fort Fillmore is a very pretty place. The houses are all built out of mud, called dobys Houses. To morrow we intend to move into Mesilla but a short distance from here, 6 miles I believe, that all.

Friday the 25th of June 1858. — We have layed in camp all day & probably shall stay here for a long time. We are one mile west of Fort Fillmore & 5 miles from Mesilla. I have nothing to do now, all is well.

Saturday the 26th of June, 1858. — We still remain in camp — doing nothing. We have killed a Beef to day. So we shall have plenty to eat. The weather is very warm.

Sunday the 27th June, 1858. — To day we have unloaded the waggons & placed the goods in one of the Doby houses for safe keeping. We have also made a new camp under two large Cotton wood trees. The flies are inexpressible thick there fore we cannot take much comfort in camp. How provoking they are.

Monday the 28th June, 1858. — I have sold a few of my clothes to day. Making preparations to start for California. The weather is warm.

Tuesday the /29th June 58 — We have got a swing erected in camp & we are enjoying ourselves finely. This day we have moved our camp down the River about 5 miles. Some further from town now and also now from the girls.

Wednesday the 30th of June /58. — There has been an other Beef killed to day for the good of the people. I have washed my shirts & am fixing for a journey acrossed the Territory of New Mexico. We are now on a new camping ground. Some better than the old one. This month has passed away very quiet. It has been very warm & dry & some hard on me.

July the 1st, 1858. — Our Camp is now 2 miles below Fort Fillmore in a quite romantic place. There is nothing doing in Camp in the way of work. Some of the boys are dealing Monty. Others playing euchre & all is right.

July 2nd, 1858. — I arose this morning from pleasant dreams. I had been through Pallaces & pleasures. Visited my friends and thought I were at Home. But to my surprise when I awake I found myself in the same old Waggon wrapped in the U.S. Blanket as usual. I was thankful to have a waggon for my shelter.

Saturday the 3d of July 1858. — I have hunted Rabbits in Company with Charles Brownson to day. I should think we saw over a hundred but did not kill more than half of them. A Great Country for game, this. A number of boys have gone to Mesilla for the purpose of buying a mule to put in our outfit for California. The days are uncomfortable warm & the flies are disagreeable thick & the creeping insects are awful dangerous, well as the Mexican Women. What a country for a youth like myself.

Sunday the 4th of July /58. — This morning we were all up by the peep of day & put out for the City of Mesilla, for the purpose of settling up our business with Col. Leach & the Government, which we accomplished, but shall not get our money untill to morrow. This place is a Place for the kind. I like it very much. I shall never forget this day & our proceedings. I have gone farther into numerous places than I ever thought I should. However it was all for the best, & you must understand it is the 4th of July. I think I have traveled nearly 25 miles on foot this day & accomplished something else of more importance. Well, nothing more, for I cannot spend time to pencil down any more when I am enjoying so much comfort.

Monday the 5 of July, 1858. — The weather is warm & I feel quite rested from my day preceeding yesterday, though I am a little sore and not quite so nible as usual. — I have been to the Settlers Store at Fort Fillmore & received my pay from Government, which amounted to \$71.33 there is \$25 Dollars more coming which I expect to get soon. I shall then have over \$100 Dollars when I get ready for California. Fifty Dollars I have put in to day for the purpose of buying Mules, Waggon. There is eight men in our company bound to leave for the Gold region.

Tuesday the 6th of July 1858. — I have been very uncomfortable today on the account of a sudden Diarhea. I hope I will soon get over it. Thomas Miller has gave up going to Cal. it lessens our company one. There is a Mexican Dance to night a number of our boys are going. The day has been extremely hot. Moore's Brother came into camp last night. He has been expecting him for a long time. I also received a letter from my Brother T. B. P. & one from my only Sister Arthemise O. Putnam. I am happy to hear from home & know they are all well. How much I should like to see them all.

Wednesday the 7th of July 1858. — Weather hot & the Devil to pay. Damn the luck. Let it rip. —

Thursday the 8th of July 1858. — Today we have moved from the Government Camp & started on our way to California. There is seven in our Company now & we intend to increase at least two more. Our Camp is one mile from Mesilla. We have lain in for a supply of Grub out of the Government. Got it by the slight of hand. Captain Holliday has wronged me out of \$25 Dollar or at least stole it from me. Dod damn such a man. We crossed the River Rio Grande to day came very nigh loosing our load.

Friday the 9th of July 1858. — I have been down to Mesilla. Bought some tricks such as necessary for our journey. Also two more mules making our team of the horse kind number seven. Jackson, Swilling & Branson has joined our party to day. As I expected. There is nine of us now. I feel quite fatigued from my days labor. There has been one man killed to day and a number more shot at. What a Country this compared to my old native State Penna. I mailed a letter to T. B. P. this afternoon. I must now lay down and rest for I don't feel well. But who cares — No one.

Saturday the 10th, 1858. — This day we have had Mr. Austin of Providence out to our Camp. He brought with him that which will make one feel friendly and jovial. James F. Eddy's home is in Providence R. I. He is a particular friend of Mr. Austin, knows all of his folks. I like Mr. Austin very much. He is very much of the Gentleman. Our living has been first rate this day . . . on the account of having visitors. We intend to start on our way rejoicing to morrow. There will be a Mexican Flan-dango to night at Pecoacha 6 miles above Mesilla & we shall probably all bid the "Sinerittens" an Affectionate good bye this evening — The weather is extremely hot and dry, & if it was not for the Over flowing of the land here the crops would all go to the D—l. That is all for this day.

Sunday the 11th of July, 1858. — I have not had any amount of sleep & there is a good reason why. The Mexican girls lead one astray some times and many an honest American boy is prevented from taking his usual rest. how singular. The Flan-dango was carried on very well last night no Shooting or stabbing as generally the case at these dances. I had the pleasure of Dancing with the Angelic beings of Mexico. It is custom to treat your partner every time you dance with her. I danced with quite a number & it cost me 2 bits every pardner. The women would take for their drink a little Lemon. I took something a little stronger & more exhilarating. Our floor was on the ground, the dirt was packed very hard & made quite smooth. You can

imagine it was a little dusty, though they managed to keep it well sprinkled. All the women used Tobacco, came very nigh smoking me out. There is 12 men in our company now. It seems to keep increasing. We have made a short drive & camped on the Plains some 12 miles from Mesilla & two or three from Pecoacho. There has been a row to day with Mexicans & emigrants. Some 30 Mexicans well armed came to their camp (the emigrants) & took two of their number away as prisoners. The difficulty arose from accusing a Mexican of stealing some of their stock, & they whiped him until they were satisfied. We intended to help the emigrant if they had a battle & a number of us went down to their camp after we saw the Mexican pass by us. I thought there would be some fighting going on, for I least expected the emigrant would give up two of their men. However they did do it & a very cowardly act it was. The canion just above Pecoacho is 3 or 4 miles long & very ruff hagard place it is. It is very heavy pulling for our teams, it is all we can do to make the "riffle." Guess I'll dry up.

Monday the 13th of July, 1858. — The word I have spelled Pocoacho should be spelled Pocatchee. — Our Company were up this morning early & on our way across the lonly Plains. The day has been warm & our Road good. We reached Cooks springs about 3 Oclock A.M. at night. A long drive without water. It is called 65 miles across the Desert. I am very tired & sleepy. So good by for the remainder of this day.

Tuesday 13th July 1858. — We have crossed the Jornada of 65 miles & are now at Cooks springs. This is a water place for Indians. Yet we have not been disturbed with them. We were obliged to travel untill nearly day before we reached here. Our teams are in good order, seems to travel with great care. The emigrant that started with us arrived here today. Their stock were looking fine. An Old Mr. Finly (as they call him) has a Daughter that ownes the most of the stock. Her stock stood the Desert so well that she has a smiling countenance & appears quite captivating. We found plenty of water here, but a scarcity of Wood. We have pain over to day at the Springs for rest. So let it be.

Wednesday the 14th of July 1858.—Well I have nothing more to say than usual. We left camp at sun up & traveled over some very ruff looking country & reached the Rio Mimbers river at 12 Oclock A.M. We found water here in abundance & caught some fish and killed a Rabbit or two. This place is 18 miles from Cooks Springs. There is plenty of wood on this River & a beautiful grazing range for Stock. We met a company of Californians on their way home this morning. There was 10 in number. Our Camp is on the Fork of the stream & pleasant adobe. The Company is gitting along finely. Good day.

Thursday the 15th of July, 1858. This morning we left the Rio Members & traveled on to Oja Lavaca Springs, a distance of 15 miles. Here we got our dinners & put out a number of miles farther & camped for the night. The day has been pleasant.

Friday the 16 of July 1858. — We left Camp after breakfast & reached the Ojo Excavada at midday. At these springs we found plenty of water for our stock. It is 15 miles from the Ojo Lavaca. We remain here all day & lay in for a supply of water, for we are not sure of finding water after leaving here, untill we reach New Springs a long distance from here. We came through Burro canon to day. Our road has been very good so far. We trust it will continue so. We have found plenty of grass by camping away from water a short distance. There has been a refreshing shower this Afternoon. The country is ruff and mountainous. The land is poor & it is hardly fit for Indians to live in. Good day. You will hear from me again to morrow if nothing happens. n.o.z.

Saturday the 17th of July 1858. — We left the Ojo Excavada this afternoon at 2 Oclock, weather warm, about four Oclock a heavy sqall came up. The wind blew very cold & hail came down in a way which was far from being pleasant. It was what they call a real Norther. At first I thought it would soon pass over, but it lasted untill night. I got every garment on me wet through & became extremely cold. I suffered very much, more than I ever did before from the inclemency of the weather. O, how much would I give if I could only have found shelter under my Feather Ruff at that time. I was so cold that I could scarcely rise my hand at all in trying to make a fire. I thought of Home & how pleasantly they were all situated, perhaps dreaming of a spirit land & their long absent companion. I made me feel bad to think I had left all of these pleasures to suffer so much upon these Plains, where nothing save Wild Indians roam. But fortune has cast my lot & I must submit to it. it is hard.

Instead of enjoying a warm bed as I would at home, I have to cast my self down on the cold wet ground & trust In God for my protection during the long dreary night. How lonesome it is for one inexperienced. Eddy my friend & bed fellow has arranged our Blankets in such a way that they will Keep the wind & rain from beating in upon us. Before I take my rest I have to stand guard two hours then I shall prepare for my bed hoping that I may feel some revived in the morning. — We have of course found plenty of water to day, much more than we expected or cared about.

Sunday the 18th of July 1858. — After Breakfast we left our Camp & traveled on untill night making our usual stops. I feel

much better than I did yesterday when undergoing all of that storm. At noon when partaking of the staff of life we were suddenly brought to our feet by the hoope of an Indian. He proved to be friendly & belongs to the Apatchee Tribe. We treated him kindly & gave him some-thing to eat. He was a stout robust looking fellow & had three companions with him that we did not allow to come in camp. Found plenty of water on our road in the tanks of rocks. All well.

Monday the 19th July 1858. — By day light we were on the road for Cottonwood springs, made a long drive before breakfast & reached there at eight Oclock A.M. it being 40 miles from Ojo Excavada. We came through the canon of the Rocky Mountains. Stayed at the springs until two Oclock P.M. then rolled on untill Dark & struck a camp. Three of our boys are on a head & will probably camp by themselves to night. 'Tis now raining again "how" pleasant, eh!

Tuesday the 20th of July 1858. — We have just passed through a wide valley, surrounded entirely by large rocky mountains. A very romantic spot. We are of opinion that we have strayed from our road & are going a little out of our way. We intend to Keep on Leaches new Road if possible. The weather last night was rainy. I slept warm and comfortable. Mts. are high. It is very ruff in this vicinity. We have had a long chase after Grizzly Bears to day. I satisfied myself in running after an old large fellow. He had been shot at twice, but still escaped. We took our dinner at Ojo Del Springs in the Apatche canon. A ruff looking place in the Mts. & very dangerous. Many emigrants have been killed there. Our Road is quite hilly. We have been very fortunate to day in our travel found plenty of cherries, discovered a new road, & saw six Bears. We have also discovered Gold at Ojo Del Pichon Springs. We are informed that these Mts. are full of Gold & far exceed those in California. Though the Indians are bad and no one can work them. Water is very scarce also, which is very bad. Eventually there will be no doubt large emigration to this country for the minerals that can be found in these Mountains. What think ye?

Wednesday 21st of July 1858. — When on guard last night I heard the running of horses & I quickly aroused my companions for the reception of Indians, but as they drew near I hailed them & found out they were Mexicans with a small cavayard. Therefore no damage done. We have traveled all day, making at least 25 miles across a beautiful valley. We are now on the road that leads to Fort Buchanan. Leaches New Road we lost three or four days ago. This country is thickly inhabited with the wild Indians belonging to the Apatchee Tribe. There is plenty of gold all through these Mts. & will probably some day be very valuable. The day has been quite warm. Jehu.

Thursday the 22d July, 1858. — Under the present circumstances we have layed over here until 2 O'clock P.M. We found water by going up a canon a mile or so. The name of this watering Place was not known by our company, but I have since found out, it is Dragoon Springs. We traveled on untill 9 O'clock at night & camped on the Banks of the San Pedro. There has been one more of those refreshing showers this Afternoon. Our Company is all right as yet, but some think of Drawing out when they reach Fort Buchanan. Let them Go . . .

Friday the 23d of July 1858. — We are now enjoying the life of a frontiersman in a wild, romantic Country. Such enjoyment I have plenty of & think I will soon retire from such life. We crossed the San Pedro River this morning & Camped a few Rods from its banks. We left in the After noon & traveled untill nearly sun down. Thursday last we camped at Dragoon Springs. The day has been pleasant. They have all lain down to rest & I am about to. Good Night . . .

Saturday the 24 July 1858. — Off again this morning for Fort Buchanan. We were informed this morning by a number of Soldiers that the Fort was 21 miles off. We arrived in Town at 2 O'clock P.M. Found it to be quite a respectable Fort. Of course it would be for its name was enough to convince any one. We camped near the Fort & spent the night. All right with out . . . yet.

Sunday the 25 July 1858. — This morning we left our camp in rather a disagreeable way. Some of our boys are agoing to have the Company agoing and make a great deal of disturbance about it. We passed through the Fort this morning. The soldiers are on parade. There is any quantity of Silver in this section of country. Gold is not so plentiful. Produce and all Kinds of Merchandise is very high here. Sugar is 27 - per lb. Coffee is 61 per lb. Lead is 81 per lb. Common shoes is six Dollar per pair. Everything else is in proportion to these prices. There has four of our Company been drunk & drawn out their share to day that leaves only 8 of us now. There has been a heavy shower to day.

Monday the 26th July 1858. — Off by the usual time & on our way to the Santo Cruise River. Reached it at twelve O'clock A.M. It is a beautiful stream & has plenty of timber on its banks. I gathered a great many heall nuts as we passed along beside it. We Camp on its banks to night. Have killed a Beef & jerked it & also smoked and cured it, ready for a start to Morrow. James F. Eddy sold out his claim in our Outfit to day. The two Wilson boys have joined us a gain. We have Indians visit our Camp often now. The Sonora line is only four miles from our Camp. Our Beef cost \$10.00.

Tuesday the 27th July 1858. — There has not been so much disturbance in camp to day as usual. Jackson Swilling has bought him an other Horse. We made a drive of 10 miles this morning to the town of Tübeck, mostly Mexicans. The day has been extremely hot. John Smith has bought him a Horse. I have traded my Indian Pony (called Judge) for a station. We have made 20 miles to day. This valley is very productive, corn looks fine. Mts. are still high & very ruff. Plenty of silver mines in this section. Some dangerous.

Wednesday 28th July 1858. — We strayed from our Road yesterday & camped near Col. Douglass' The Owner of a large silver mine. We soon got on our right road this morning for Tuscon, came only 4 miles out of our way, which was no disadvantage to us in the end. We passed to day the grave of four men that had been killed by Indians. Weather warm. Col. Carson, brother to Kit Carson, came in our Camp & I got well acquainted with him. He is a smart man & well posted on this Country. He is now acting as interpreter for the Indian agent. I should judge he is nearly sixty years old. But still he enjoys the life of a frontiersman. Many stories he told our Company about Kit (his Brother) This was very interesting to us.

Friday the 29th July 1858. — This day we passed through Tucson & camped three miles west of the Town. I mailed two letters there, one for Perly, my Brother, the other to Uncle R. S. Putnam of New Orleans. Indians have been in our camp today. The Apache Tribe. Tucson is mostly Mexicans. We have come since we left Mesilla 4 hundred miles, one hundred miles further than we were obliged to come. We have had a very heavy rain today, "A soaker." . . . P.S. The above line was penned on the 30th of July. I will write the proceedings of July 29th now.

Thursday 29/58. — Drove this morning two miles to water, then Camped and remained untill evening. The day is hot. I have written two letters, one to Uncle Royal & the other to Perlēy. We came this evening far as Tuscon, it being 12 miles from our Old camp.

Thursday 29/58 continued. We passed by an old Ancient Mission which was vacated 110 years ago. It is a splendid building, nearly equal to any in New Orleans. It is situated 10 miles from Tucson on the San Cruise river. On the inside of the building there is some fine work which is unsurpassed and also elegant Paintings of our Savior. There is no one living at ar near the church only a few Greasers and halfbreedIndians. At some day there must have been a sentral point for the Mexicans which were no doubt thickly settled in that vicinity. Have seen John Moore to day. He is with the Mail Party from San Antonio.

Saturday the 31st, 1858. — We left Gragoon Springs this morning. Came far as Lugana & then stopped to get our dinners. It being 9 miles from Tucson. In the evening we drove until 10 O'clock & camped without water & but very little grass. The day has been exceedingly warm. I have never before experienced such hot weather. We partly got started for a gold mine this morning, but on second thought gave it up. (A wise plan.) I am just so-so . . .

Sunday Augt. 1st 1858. — This day we reached the Picacho Mountains at 2 O'clock P.M. found plenty of water & grass and is 30 miles from our last water at the Lugana. At the Picacho Mts. We found a Company of Mr. Butterfield men. They were going to establish stations on the road for the Great Overland Mail Company. Their stages will commence running in a month or so. This company has been out from Fort Yuma 4 days only. I have seen a great many deer this day & also woods. On the account of rain our road has been very muddy most of the way. Left the Picacho Mts. & drove very late at night. Three of us went a head of the Party expecting to find a camping ground & went for the rest. The consequence was that we were obliged to camp by ourselves. The company became tired & camped some 4 miles behind us. This broke me of going a head of the wagon. However no harm done.

Monday Augt. 2d 1858. — This day has been hot as usual. We have made a very good drive & camped. We think near the Gila river. James Spain killed a Black tail Deer to day. The first I ever saw and the largest. We jerked its meat and dried it as we do Beef. We have plenty of water to day on the account of previous rains. We drove in the night until 11 O'clock P.M. Camped without grass but had plenty Mesquit Beans. I must stop.

Tuesday the 3rd 1858. — Reached the Gila River this morning & camped on its Banks until evening. The River is 36 miles from the Picacho Mts. & 90 miles from Tucson. At evening we rolled out far as Peter Caperson Ranch, it being only 4 miles & just in the edge of Pimas Villages. A number of Indians have been at our Camp to day. I have done a little washing to day for my humble. Though that is not my trade, I am under the necessity of doing it here like all the rest of us poor Americans.

Wednesday the 4th of August, 1858. — Left this morning early & camped for Breakfast at 9 O'clock A.M. in one of the Indian Towns. We bought corn & beans for our stock and traded considerable with them. The Pimas & Merricopas are very friendly to the whites and are quite intelligent looking Indians. I treated myself to watermelons and roasting ears of corn which I Bot of the Indians. They were fine eating just then. At eve-

ning we travelled on to Maricopa Wells It being 18 miles from Caperson Ranch.

Thursday the 5th 1858. — This is my birthday. It numbers my years 21. No longer have I the right to live under the ruff of An Affectionate Father and be on his expense. I must now look out for myself and do the best I can for my own happiness in this life. On this ground where we are now camping was a heavy Battle fought just a year ago this month with the Pimas & Maricopas on one side & the Apaches & Yumas on the other. The Pimas & Maricopas were victorious. They killed 94 of the Yumas & one or two of the Apaches while they only lost 4 or 6 & they being mostly women that their enemy killed before that they new of their arrival. I have walked over the ground many times. Their long black hair & skulls Bones &c can be seen now upon the Battle field. They nearly cover the ground in some places. Bows & arrows & their war clubs lye scattered thick in that vicinity. This country is very warm & but little rain, The Indians rais corn, wheat, melons &c by irrigation. They have also plenty of Beef cattle. We leave this evening a cross the Dessert, it being 40½ miles before we reach the Gila River again. I have picked up a number of arrows on the Battle field just to examion the "critters." I saw one Indian, probably the Chief of the Yumas that had 12 arrows shot through him and still remained there. Quite a sight for me to see them lying in all shapes over the ground. That is just the way I like to see them, wish they were all here in the same predicament, that I might look upon them all with pleasure & know my life was safe from these inhuman wretches that live and inhabit this God for saken Country — We intend to drive all night & reach our water in the morning. I dread starting.

Friday the 6th of Augt. 1858. — We reached our River Gila this morning, found it a larger Stream than where we left it before Capersons. We have caught a large string of fish & expect to enjoy ourselves in picking their Bones. At this place there is 3 Boys settled on a ranch to make their fortunes. They intend to make a few dimes in Killing Deer & raising produce. I have enjoyed a fine Bath to day in the river. Yet it is not deep enough ta take much of a swim. We shall stay here to day & let our animals rest. There is no grass but plenty of Misquit Beans.

Saturday the 7th Augt. 1858. — We have traveled only 10 miles this day. Camped on Gila in a very romantic spot. There is no grass but an abundance of Beans. Our boys are fishing & have caught a number of what they call Gila trout. The land in this section is not of much account, & I have not seen any in the Gadson purchase that ever was very incouraging to live on. It is mostly a barren & Mountainous Country & fit for nothing more than the wild Indians to roam in. Weather warm. Yes, very hot.

Sunday 8th Augt. 1858. — This is a day of rest at home but not to the weary traveler on the Plains. Instead of going to church & enjoy God's Blessings like all good Christians ought, we are roving on through the wild Indian country seeking for some place to rest. We are exposed to the scorching raze of the sun & the many cold northern storms. Many times we suffer for a Drink of water in crossing these Desserts. Also when we lye down to sleep there is thousands of creeping insects that are very dangerous. All this we must endure together with other hardships & trust in God for our protection. We have come 24 miles. Passed Murdens Grave & reached Oak Man Flats. We met a party of men that were going in to Sonora for their fortunes.

Monday the 9th of Augt. 1858. — When I woke this morning I found that I had taken my night rest beside a lonely grave. I learn that a Family was murdered here by the Indians in the Year of 1851 with the exception of one Girl. Oatman were their name. The Girl remained with the Indians 5 or 6 years before she was restored to the Whites again. I have since learned that one of the boys that the Indians left for dead came to life again & is now enjoying the great comfort of life. I have their history and it is very interesting. Oatman was in the act of settling a ranch but was soon cut off by the inhuman Savages.

We have made 14 miles today. The road has been quite hilly & very rocky. Col. Leach has improved the Road very much. I am not well. My Bowels pain me a great deal.

Tuesday the 10th Augt. 1858. — Last evening I suffered much but am feeling well this morning. We have nothing to eat more than Bread and a little Tea. This is bad fare but we have to be contented with it. We can do no better untill we reach the Fort. A number of the boys are out a hunting for Deer. I hope they may kill one. Bless my hungry Belle. Jack Swilling has just arrived in camp with an antelope, or some call it the wild goat. He is a right fat fellow & will eat well. We are still travelling in a mile or two of the river. Got supplied with water from the Gila. We have come 23 miles . . .

Wednesday 11th Augt. 1858. — I am still permitted to travel on, Yet I suffer much. I have not been well for the last two days. My head aches & my whole body is sore. I have no appetite & what could I eat if I had. Tis now I would give the last dollar to be on a soft bed in my Father's House. The sun is shinning hot, so much so that it is impossible for us to travel in the day time. Our Company is most Southern men, but they never experienced warm weather before like this. We have come 34 miles this day, & camped at a ranch on the Gila river.

Thursday, the 12th Augt. 1858. Left camp this morning &

traveled some 6 miles & then gave our stock time to graze. The boy also gathered Misquit Beans. We left soon as possible & traveled untill we reached an other ranch on the Gila. There we camped for the night. We have made 17 miles today. We are traveling on or near the river & we get plenty of water by going off from the road a mile or so. I am sick, very sick, & suffer extremely. Have not eat anything for three or four days. I have a hard time of it. I have now got a heavy fever & my whole body aches. Tis hard . . .

Friday the 13th of Augt. 1858. — There has been trading going on in camp today. The waggon, our waggon, has been sold, two or three mules have been traded off & a number of other articles. The boys all leave to night on their mules and horses. Some of the Animals are packed, consequently, two or three of them have to walk. I still have a heavy fever and feel very weak & tender all through, therefore they (my companions) have to leave me to my fate, here in this God-forsaken wilderness. There is two men taken up a ranch close by here & I have got their consent to stay untill I get better & able to ride to Fort Yuma. I took my part of the outfit in a Mule & Saddle & Bridal. I feel about like dying.

Saturday the 14th of Augt. — The day has been hot. I have been confined all day to this shanty, nothing better to lye on the hard ground. I feel very uneasy. The fever has not left me yet. I am suffering much & don't know as I shall ever get better. The weather is so disagreeable warm here that it goes much harder with me. Smith & Glasscock are the names of the men that I am staying with.

Sunday the 15th of Augt. 1858. — Praise my God, I feel some better this morning. I have not got that burning fever to torment me. I hope it will never come again. Its pains are piercing. I suffer from the warm weather a great deal. You would not believe it was so hot here unless you experienced it yourself. I have no appetite what ever, nor have I eat anything to speak of for the last week. O what I would give to be under my mothers care now. I would feel perfectly happy notwithstanding all of my pains & ailings. Nothing More.

Monday the 18th of Augt. — I awake this morning feeling better. Though at the forepart of the night I suffer acutely. The day is not quite so warm as usual. How glad I was for that. James F. Eddy arrived here today, had a good long talk with him. He is going on through quick as possible to San Francisco. There has been a heavy rain this afternoon, so much water fell that it put everything in floate about the cabin. I do hope I will get able to travel soon. Two Rattle Snakes have been killed at the head of my bed to day. Who calls this a pleasure trip to cross the plains.

for we cannot take much comfort
in camp. Now proving this one.

Monday the 28th June 1858.

I have sold a few of my clothes to
day. Making preparations to
start for California. The weather
is warm.

Tuesday the 29th June / 58

We have got a swing erected
in camp & we are enjoying our
situation finely. The day we have
moved our camp down the river
about 8 miles, some further from
San Juan & also from the city.

Wednesday the 30th of June / 58

There has been an other Bee
killed to day for the good of the
people. I have washed my shirt.

I am fixing for a journey &
crossed the Great Territory of
New-Mexico. We are now on
a new Camping Ground, some
better than the old one. This
Month has passed away very
gayly. It has been very
warm & dry, some hard on me, —

July the 1st 1858.

Our Camp is now 2 miles
below Pratt Hill more in a
quite romantic place. There
is nothing doing in Camp
in the way of work. Some of
the boys are dealing Monty,
Others playing checkers &c.
all is right. July 2^d 1858.
I awoke this morning from
pleasant dream. I have been
through Pains & pleasures,
Missed my friends and
thought I were at home
But to my surprise when
I awoke I found myself
in the same old Wagon
wrapped in the U. S. Blanket
as usual. I was thankful to
have a Wagon for my shelter.
Saturday the 3^d of July 1858.
I have hunted Rabbits in
Camp with Charles Brow-
ner to day. I should think
we saw over a hundred, but

Tuesday the 17th of Augt. 1858. — I have been in great misery today think I never suffered more. My disease still keeps hold of me. The weather being so that it affects me very much. When shall I get rid of all my pains. I fear not untill I am no more. Hy Twitty camped here at noon & stayed untill evening. They done all they could for me & I thank them kindly for it. They gave me sugar, rice, coffee & some nice light biscuit. Smith & Glasscock are hauling hay. Monteas is gathering Misquit beans.

Wednesday the 18th of Augt. 1858. — This day I have spent very pleasantly, have had no sick spells, my appetite is getting better-& I feel better all over. The day has been warm, but very little air stirring.

Thursday the 19th of Augt. 1858. — I passed the fore part of the day very well, but in the Afternoon I was taken down again worse than ever. I was compelled to lye upon my back all the time & pour water over me. I suffered a great deal. A Company of men has camped here for the night. They are on their way to Sonora, Mexico.

Friday Augt. 20th 1858. — This day has passed off about as usual. I have not been confined to my bed on the ground, have sit up nearly half the time. The Weather still remains Hot.

Saturday Augt. 21/58. — A journey to the Fort Yuma I am a going to try to day. James F. Eddy my best Friend in time of need came last night with a waggon & span of Mules to take down to the Fort, where I will be better taken care of. How clever he has been to me. The day has not been so hot as usual & I stood the trip much better than I expected. We reached the Fort at 10 Oclock at night.

Sunday Augt. 22d 1858. — I have passed this day in Fort Yuma. Just on the border of California & partly in Arizona Territory. The place is not much. The Fort is very nicely arranged on a high hill or Bank. The River Colorado is muddy. It looks very much like the Mississippi. Steam Boats come up as far as this place. They say the river is navigable 300 miles above here. They probably will soon get to running up the stream farther. I have felt quite well to day. Yet there is something working on my system that is not right & makes me feel bad at times. I wish I was well & hearty. Lonely, sick and sad is my condition.

Monday 23d of Augt. — I took my lodging last night on the ruff of Mr. Hilton's Store. The ruff was nearly flat & it made quite a comfortable place to rest. I felt some better today. My Appetite is good & I am in hopes that I will soon be well. The day is Hot as usual.

Tuesday the 24 Aug. 1858. — The day has passed & gone but I still remain. Have sold my mule & Saddle. Got \$30.00. I have had the head ache to day, otherwise have felt very well. I perceive I am getting strong & think I will be around again. May it be so.

Wednesday the 25 of Aug. 1858. — This morning I arose feeling quite well. The ruff of the house appears to be a little hard for my hips. They are feeling quite sore. I have been laying on the Boat nearly all day. There has nothing transpired of any account. Weather — warm.

Thursday 26th Aug. 1858. — I am feeling better every day & think I will soon be strong enough to leave this place. I have a good appetite. I am staying with the mail boys. It has not cost me anything yet for my grub. I have only \$60 Dollars & I must be saving with that. All is right.

Friday the 27th of Aug. 1858. — I have passed the day feeling about as usual. I am in hopes I will get around again. The day is hot. I feel lonely & bad. When will I get strong, Hardy & robust again.

Saturday the 28th of Aug. 1858. — The day has been a sorry one for me. I had a chill this morning & after that passed off a heavy fever set in & I have been very sick all day. I am all alone and no body to do the least thing for me, only what I get the Indians to do for me. Have vomited up all I have eat to day. This is discouraging for one in my predicament.

Sunday the 29th of Aug. 1858. — I have this day crossed the Colorado & gone into the Hospital. I am feeling quite well at present, but I am affraid I will be taken down again. I am getting quite discouraged & fear I shall never get around again. I have taken six pills & a glass of sirup of some kind. There is three Companys stationed at this Fort. The Houses are built well.

Monday Aug. 30th 1858. — I have felt quite well all day. My appetite is good, but I don't get much to eat. The day has not been so warm as usual. We have had a little rain storm which cooled the air. We had also a heavy sand storm.

Aug. Thursday 31st 1858. — This is muster day here at the Fort & the Commanding officer, Mr. Mannan inspects all that belongs to the Fort. The soldiers make a fine display this morning. It has rained some to day. The weather is a little cooler than 135 (degrees) I have felt quite well all day. This is encouraging to the sick one.

Wednesday the 1st of Sept. 1858. — The Hospital Stundance have had two water melons to eat to day. We bought

them on the sly order. There is six of us in the Hospital. I am still improving in health. Weather moderate. Indians plenty but no sale for them.

Thursday the 2d of Sept. 1858. — Last night I suffered some from my bowels. They pain me much. I still keep moving, though I think I am not growing stronger very fast. I dream of home often. O! How I should like to be there at present. This sickness of mine would not be half so disagreeable. The day is warm.

Thermometer is 95 degrees.

Friday the 3d of Sept. 1858. — I have felt quite well this day, walked around considerable. My appetite still remains good. I think I am on a gain. I have had a piece of Musk Melon to day. The weather is warm. Thermometer is 103 in the shade. There is seven in the hospital now. Gained one more.

Saturday the 4th of Sept. /58. — I had some pain in my bowels last night otherwise I rested well. I am taking quinine for my medicine three times a day. I had pleasant dreams last night of home. This is lonesome place for me to be sick in. Yet I keep up good courage . . . weather that thermometer 103 dg.

Sunday the 5 of Sept. — We have gained an other patient to day. We number eight now. There is none of us very dangerous. This day is just the same as usual in this Country. People are ruff as the D-I. I am still progressing, feel a little better. The conversation in the hospital is very laughable, all right.

Monday the 6th of Sept. 1858. — Our patients has lost one of their number to day. He left the dreded hospital this morning. — I hope I may go soon. I feel well enough but am very weak. I rested very well last night, yet had a little pain in my bowels. The day is very warm & smokey & you can not see but a short distance. The Indians bring melons in abundance every day to sell to the soldiers. I dare not eat them.

Tuesday the 7 of Sept. 1858. — An other patient has left us to day. I have crossed the River to day & seen the Captain of the schooner. It is not certain how nor when I will leave this place. I must do something soon or I shall be strapped, that all . . .

Wednesday the 8th of Sept. 1858. — I have been down to Yagen's to day one mile below Town. I went down to see if I could get a chance to go a cross the Desert. I failed but think I can get a chance in a few days. The weather is getting some colder. My appetite is good, better, best, but the trouble is now I can not get enough to eat. Our rations are very light in the Hospital. Let me be removed from that dreaded House.

I have seen & experienced enough to do me for the next 10 years.

Most gratefully Yours &c

R. P. P.

R. P. Putnam's Journal
Vol. 2d 1858

Thursday the 9th of Sept. 1858. — I have written one book through with more nonsense, & will endeavor to black or red a few pages of this, that will probably amount to nothing more. I have felt quite well to day. My Bowels are not so painful as they were yesterday. I feel more as though I should be strong enough to cross the Desert in a day or so. This morning I cross the Colorado River & brought my trunk up to Mr: Hilton's Store. The captain of a Government Schooner will probably take it down with him to morrow & put it a board of San Francisco. I shall not go with it, & a good reason I have for not going. The trunk will be very likely six or eight weeks a going as they did not intend to go Direct. I have taken out enough clothes to last me to San Francisco. I have traded a pair of sleeve Button with Joseph Cooper (Hilton's Clerk) & got me an over shirt & a pair of Pants. A good trade that on my side. The weather is quite comfortable now, the sun is not so scorching, & those warm winds are growing colder. What a Country.

Friday the 10th of Sept. 1858. — We are called to mourn the loss of another patient to day. He left us this morning in good spirits & was happy to know that he had recovered from his illness sufficiently to do his duty about the Fort. May good fortune go with him is my best wishes for my friend. — I still think I am improving slowly, my limbs are getting stronger & I can walk with considerable ease. My Bowels pain me a great deal to day, but the Steward of the Hospital says it is on account of having different diet than I was in the habit of eating for the last two or three months. To day is some warmer. The Thermometer is 102 de. in the shade. I have remained at the Hospital all day, bought a large musk melon & we patients had a fine feast off from it. The Hospital is a great place. There is some pretty hard cases here.

Saturday the 11th of Sept. 1858. — I arose this morning from a good night sleep. Had a capital appetite for my breakfast, ate two rations of Bread. After I had finished this I took a morning walk down the Colorado a bout a mile to Mr. Yagen's for the purpose of seeing if any emigrants had arrived there that I might cross the Desert with. There was none. I feel better after my walk & trust I shall not be taken down again. The day has

passed away as usual, nothing of any importance has transpired. The thermometer is 105 de. Calvin Williams I saw to day at Yagen's.

Sunday the 12th of Sept. 1858. — I have now been in the Hospital just 2 Weeks to day. A long time I think it has been. I took an early walk this morning & round to the water works. Had a splendid view of the Country & could see for hundreds of miles around. In the evening I took a strole down to Yagens on business as usual. On my way I met Wm. Williams an old friend, had a long chat with him. I have found no chance of crossing the Desert yet. However I am daily gaining strength & will be able to stand the trip better after a while. The thermometer is only 105 degrees in the shade.

Monday the 15th of Sept. 1858. — We have gained a new Patient to day. He is pretty sick and don't feel quite so cheerful as the rest of us that are getting well. We have for breakfast nothing but coffee & bread & Dinner is generally Soup, Bread & meat. This we have at 11 Oclock A.M. Our supper we have Bread & Coffee. Sometimes a little sauce on our crout. This day is fast disappearing & we are all preparing for a happy night rest. May God grant it. We have experienced a warm day for this time of the year. The thermometer is 109 deg. Good bye.

Tuesday, the 14th of Sept. 1858. — After breakfast I had a fine walk again down the Colorado to Mr. Yagens. My journey there amounted to nothing as heretofore. A man came in to the Hospital to day very badly scalded. He is in great pain & his body looks very bad. He was cooking for the company, when accidentally a large Kettle of Boiling Coffee fell & its contents splashed all over him. I am just about so so improving slowly. My Bowels are still paining me. The soldiers are laying around on their Bunks taking their comfort as usual. They have first rate Houses here & plenty to eat of the Kin . . . The day has been D-m Hot Thermometer is high as 109 deg. "Je hugh" fire must be close to this place. It is already what might be called a Young hell.

Wednesday the 15 of Sept. 1858. — I am still lingering here in Fort Yuma Hospital. There is no place I could go to in this unfruitful, mountainous, & hell o.o. country where I would be better taken care of. I have a good bed to lie on. I have been to River on the lookout for Emigrants but discovered none. The weather is warm and uncomfortable to a sick person. The Thermometer is 108 deg. I have felt well to day.

Thursday the 16th of Sept. 1858. — After breakfast this morning I was taken sick to the stomache & remained very sick all day. I have Commenced taking medicin again (Quinin) Emi-

grant trains are now passing and I am not able to go & see them to get a chance to cross the dreaded Desert. This is very unfortunate for me, though I trust it will come right bye & bye. I had no appetite for my Dinner, yet worried down a little for supper. I feel very bad & there is none who cares for me, I imagine.

Friday the 17th of Sept. 1858. — This morning I felt a little better though towards evening the fever came on again & I was in a very disagreeable mood the best part of the day. I am afraid I shall be taken down again. I feel that way now. It will be a great blessing to me when I regain my health again. At present I think I will spend my winter De Los Angeles. Go from here in the O. M. Stage. The price will be \$35.00 Dollars. The Patients are all getting better. Weather warm. Ther. 105 deg. (Porter)

Saturday Sept. 18, 1858. — This day I have suffered beyond all account, have undergone more pain than I have heretofore since I can remember. The fever has been very severe on me to day. My head has ached. My Bowels never pained me more. I was vomiting nearly all the time, had no appetite & every thing appeared to be wrong with me. I rested very well during the night. The medicine I have been taking has taken a very powerful effect. I have been wet with sweat all day long with no clothes over me & so it goes "by gorry."

Sunday the 19th of Sept. 1858. — Three weeks have passed away since I have been in the Hospital. Little did I think my stay here would be so long. I feel now as though it would be weeks before I regain my health. I have had quite a fever to day. At night I have heavy sweats, otherwise I rest very well. My appetite is not good. Nothing new a bout the Fort has transpired. They have the same thing over and over every day. It don't appear much like Sunday here to me. The day is warm. Ther. 108 deg.

Monday the 20th of Sept. 1858. — I can write the proceedings of the day with a cheerful heart, for it has brought me no fever, no pain, no inconvenience whatever. I pray that a few more days may come as welcome. I am anxious to get to De Los Angeles before all the fine fruit disappears, especially the grapes. The weather has been cloudy to day & not so warm as usual. I have bought me some Candy & Liquorice to kill the tast of medicine.

Tuesday Sept. 21st 1858. — I often dream that I am attending those entertaining Parties which we have in my native state Pennia. Those beautiful Angelic beings that I have had so often for my pardners are still fresh in my memory. How many times I awake thinking I was surrounded by my associates & enjoying

the sweetest comforts of this life. But all was nought. The day has been cloudy nearly half the time. Therefore it is not quite so warm. Thermometer 95 deg.

Wednesday 22d Sept. 1858. — I have performed quite a day work to day. Went down to Yagens & found out when the Stage pass by there. The through mail will not be here in ten days. Yet I can take the stage in a day or two, but will have to lie over a long time on the Desert, making very slow time. I know not what I will do at present. I feel quite well to day & trust I may this time get no draw back. I am very weak yet cannot travel far before resting. There is an excitement about a gold mine up on the Gilla River, a bout 12 miles from here. Many people are going there. I would go if able.

Thursday Sept. 23d 1858. — I am feeling better this morning than I have in a long time. I arose by day brake, took my medicine, washed & done other necessary business & read nearly two Chapters in the life of Alfred the Great before breakfast, "how smart." I have found a man who I can cross the Desert with & go far as San Bernardino. He leaves to morrow morning & I think I will leave with him. His price for taking me is \$15.00 Dollars. I must get my "Grub" this after noon to last me through. The weather is not so warm Thermometer is only 90 de.

Friday Sept. 24th 1858. — Well I have made a start to day & got far as the lower Ferry which is 10 miles below the fort on the Colorado River. We intended to go farther but the man I am with has business here he says that will detain him two days longer. A bad go for me. The place is called Pilot Nob. Emigrants are thicker here than the D-I. Women & children with dirty faces, bare footed, ragged &c. . . . I am feeling very well to day & think I will stand the trip first rate. The day has been hot. Yes very hot by holland!

Saturday the 25th of Sept. 1858. — Last night was my first nights rest on the gruond for over a month. However I am feeling quite well this morning with the exception of being a little sore on the hips. My appetite is good & I am having Potatoes, onions & first rate Bread &c. A pack of Emigrants left here last evening, yet there is plenty left of the Kind. Indians are quite numerous at this point. They have melons in large quantities. They are friendly & I have over a dozen sitting around me, trying to converse with me. They Know I am sick & will bring water and any thing to me. The weather still remains Hot. To morrow evening we shall start a cross the Desert. May all go well is my wish.

Sunday the 26th Sept. 1858. — I was troubled a great deal last night with my bowels. They pain me very much, and I am feeling quite unwell this morning. I have a Diarreah, feel weak

and very uncomfortable. There was also a heavy blow last evening which made the sand fly in a manner far from being pleasant to the sleeper. The O. M. Stage went past here during the night from the west. They go flying. A good drink of milk I have had today. Adam & Merriam Willson are going along with us. They drive stock for the man that we are hauling water for or at least Mr. Murphy team does the hauling for Mr. Keneor. We leave Pilot Nob at 5 O'clock p.m.

Monday the 27th of Sept. 1858. — We did not leave this ill begotten hole last evening as we anticipated. Mr. Keneor was not ready quite to cross the greater Jornada. To day we got off at one O'clock P.M. The day is very warm as usual & the stock suffered much from heat well as ourselves. I have bought me a Mexican cheese, gave \$2.00 for it & it will weigh about four pounds. I feel very weak & disagreeable. I crossed the Colorado of the west this morning for the last time I hope for a year or so at least. So let it be.

Tuesday, 28 of Sept. 1858. — We were fortunate enough to get started yesterday at the appointed hour, one O'clock P.M. We traveled untill nearly 10 O'clock at Knight before we reached Cooks Wells a distance of only 14 miles from Pilot nob. We made a short stay at the wells & rolled on until morning. Then got our breakfast & put on again, road soon as possible & reached the Allimo Mucho Well at 3 O'clock P.M. There is not sufficient water here to water all the stock & we leave here this evening again. From Cooks Well to Allimo Mucho is 24 miles.

Wednesday 29th of Sept. 1858. — We started last evening at Sundown, traveled all night & reached the Indian Wells at eight O'clock this morning. The distance, between the Allimo & the Indian Wells is 26 miles. The road as far as I have traveled is very sandy & heavy pulling. The place is one step above the penitentiary. The country is a vast Desert for hundreds of miles around. The day is that sort of a day that will be remembered as a damned Hot day. It fairly makes the grease fry out of some of those fat women. It would be death to me to lie beside one of them these times "by Gorry." I can hardly endure the Hot winds that frequently cross sand hills. "Let her rip she's all Oak."

Thursday the 30th of Sept. 1858. — Yesterday I felt very bad the most of the day, it being an awful place to stay at these wells. However we left them at evening & traveled all night & untill 10 O'clock to day before we reached Curreaser Creek a distance of 34 miles from Indian Wells. Keaner Cattle suffered much for the want of water. They have come 100 hundred miles without water it being from the Colorado River. Keaner lost a bout 16 head of stock on the Desert, very lucky that for him.

At this place there is a doby House. Good water & a cool place for me to lie down in. Although I am very tired of the journey & have got the Ague again Bad Luck . . .

*Friday the 1st of Oct. 1858. — An other month has made its appearance & found me at Curreaser Creek in a little Doby house built for a station for the Great Overland mail company. This day is very warm. We intend to stay here untill nearly sun-down before we make a start for a place called Viaseta, a distance of 18 miles. We shall probably get through before sun up. I am feeling quite miserable just now. My Bowels are paining me Awfully. I am not able to do anything yet. I have Bought me some Molasses. Gave 12½ shillings for it there being some over a pint. Deliver me from here "By God."

Saturday Oct. 2d 1858. — We reached this place Viaseta early this morning, it looks a little more like living than any place I have seen for a long time. There is plenty of Water & Grass here, it being the only Grass that stock can get after leaving the Colorado River a distance of 118 miles . . . a perfect Desert. From Curreaser Creek to this place is 18 miles road sandy. Rhappile, the Agt. for the mail Company from San Antonio Texas to San Diego Cal. I have seen to day. A fine fellow. Two Melons I pinched of the Square to day. (how good) It is now raining & feels quite reviving to me. I am feeling first rate, considering.

Sunday the 3d of Oct. 1858. — If I was at home this day would be one of rest, but as I am now situated the toil and labor will be as great as those days of the week. Visaeta is the place I take my Breakfast at, soon as over we leave for an other Camp, 9 miles distant where we shall spend the night. Yesterday was a nice cool day and we are having an other to day. I have felt better these to days than I have in a long while. May I still keep gaining is my prayer. We are still in an awful Country for white men to think of living in. Mountains are large. Feed is scarce. Indians plenty & not very agreeable, I assure you.

Monday the 4th of Oct. 1858. — We camped last evening 9 miles from San Philippia in a valley which produced abundance of Pin Clover or Philorrea. The night was very cool & the wind blew hard & I was quite cold all night, it being the first since I left Texas. We started on our way after breakfast & reached San Phillapia at 3 Oclock P.M. We came through a long canon and had two large hills to pull up, other wise the road was good for this kind of Country. At this Place there is a number of Indian Huts & a Doby House which is used for a mail station for O, Pn. Co. The land is Rich in the vicinity but there is but little of it between the Mountains. I feel well.

Tuesday the 5 Oct. 1858. — The weather still remains cool &

bracing. Though it is a little uncomfortable sleeping at night under only one Blanket. We will remain at this Place to days for the purpose of recruiting the stock. Feed is good. Keaner leaves this evening on the stage for De Los Angeles. Adam & Merriion Willson left this morning with their two horses for parts unknown. Mexicans & Indians are plenty a bout here. Flour is \$25.00 per hundred weight. Potatoes 8c lb. I am improving. I have Pies for Supper. Won't I live, eh!

Wednesday the 6th of October 1858. — This morning we made a start and drove far as Warner ranch a distance of 16 miles. Our road has been middling good. Keaner did not go last night as he expected simply because they could not take him. The eastern stage passed here this morning for the first time. Ham bright with his stock camp close to Us to night. There is good grazing here & plenty of Water. I have had some splendid Grapes, two bits worth, by golly. Supper is ready the boys holler, & so am I.

Thursday the 7th of Oct. 1858. — Murphy the man that I am with & who has been hauling water & provisions for Keaner & his company Leaves this morning for San Bernardino. Keaner will remain at the ranch some five or six days to recruit his cattle. Mr. Murphy has taken from Warner ranch a man & his wife to haul to San Bernardino. I have now plenty Company. We have traveled two miles beyond Oak Grove to day, distance 16 miles. Two pretty Mexican girls I have seen.

Friday the 8th of Oct. 1858. — My rest was disturbed last night by an uncalled for shower of rain. I also suffered much from a pain in my back. However, I am all right this morning. Soon after breakfast we left Camp & traveled through a rocky, Hilly country untill we reached the Valley of Tomakely. Our Camp is this evening six miles beyond ToMakely Village at Mr. Moodies. Here we can get all we want to eat & plenty of green corn. We have come 32 miles to day over a poor road. To-makely is mostly inhabited by Indians. We passed by Nigger ranch, a noted place.

Saturday the 8th of Oct. 1858. — We left Mr. Moodies this morning at 10 Oclock A.M. My Bill there was one Dollar. Had the pleasure of sleeping on the floor. Otherwise I fared well enough. Our road has been good all day & we have traveled farther or at least faster than Common. We have passed by no House to day. Our Camp is on a large plain a very romantic place. I am feeling in good spirits & think I shall get a long all right now. I have had no chills since I left the Colorado of any account. Murphy has a hired man with him by the name of Sas, thinks he's some but I put him down as small Potatoes, and damned small at that.

Sunday the 10th of Oct. 1858. — Sabbath has come again & still finds me on the Plains of California. It hardly appears like Sunday for People make no distinction in their business in this part of the Country, especially when traveling. I was tormented last night again with the "cursed" little fleas. Got but a very little sleep on their account & nearly froze to death. We got an early start this morning & traveled along pretty fast untill we reached our destination San Bernardino. All is well.

Monday the 11th Oct. 1858. — Arrived in this place San Bernardino last evening. Put up at American Hotel, the best in the City of course as it is the only one. Paid Mr. Murphy \$15.00 for my ride from the Colorado River. This is quite a smart enterprising Place. People Seems to be all stiring. We come 47 miles our last two days travel from Moodies. Court is now in Cession & they all are trying to convict a man for Murder. Grapes & Peas & Peaches I have My fill of.

Tuesday the 12th of Oct. 1858. — This morning I intended to start for Los Angeles & had bargained with a man to take me there. Though this individual being a liar he drove off this morning & gave me the slip. I shall now be compelled to wait a day longer or more. I have traveled across & crossed this little valley a great deal. To day I have been eating Peaches & Grapes the most of the day & also Drinking the delicious wine at the Press. The Mormons are returning to this Place, their old home from Salt Lake Utah.

Wednesday the 13th Oct. 1858. — This morning I left the City of San Bernardino for Los Angeles. I pay \$2.50 for my Conveyance there. We have come 30 miles to day & camped 10 miles be yond the Cocomingo at a Watering Station. Ruben Sanderson is the man name that is taking me. Jacob is the Hotel Keeper at San Bernardino. The Country we passed through to day is very handsome & well filled with stock.

Thursday the 14th of Oct. 1858. — After reloading our load which had got on the first day travel Pitched to far forward in danger of Braking our vehicle, we left Camp soon as possible. By Dinner time we were at Pleasant Grove took Dinner there & just at Dark arrived at the City of Los Angeles. Put up at the Belle Union Hotel had good fare &c. A pleasant valley we passed through to day & also the Town of Monte 12 miles from Los Angeles. The distance between San Bernardino & this Place is 62 miles & Good road.

Friday 15th of Oct. 1858. — I have been traveling around the City & taking a view to day of the Place. There is a bout 12 to 10 thousand inhabitants here & there is a great deal of business transacted here for a town of its size. I wrote to the Post Master at San Francisco to day in order to have him forward all

letter & Papers Addressed to me on to Los Angeles. I have found also employment & will leave this Place to morrow. My destination will be down at San Pedro on the Coast of the Pacific. I feel some sick, probably the thoughts of working make me feel so-so.

Saturday the 16th of Oct. 1858. — Last night I had a chill & a heavy fever through the night, though I am feeling quite well this morning to what I expected. I also Bot me a pair of pants & a pair of Gloves last eve. Cost me \$5.00. At two Oclock I start for San Pedro in company with an old sea Captain & the consequences were our horses ran away with us. Through me from the waggon nearly 40 feet. All on account of the old Captain. They Broke the tongue and raised particular Hell. I felt unwell at the time and expected to get up with a leg broken or something worse. But all was sound thank God.

Sunday the 17th of Oct. 1858. — After walking a bout 4 miles to the cost after our misfortune Yesterday I behold the water of the mighty Pacific for the first time. The Ocean breeze was blowing very strong. I am in hopes it will do me some good living on the Coast for a while. I feel some sore from the effects of that awful fall I had yesterday. I slept but very little last night on account of fleas. They are devilish thing you bet. The day is pleasant & the grass is springing up with all the appearance of Spring. To Morrow I Commence my labor. "Jehu!"

Monday the 18 of Oct. 1858. — This day I have accomplished one days work. It came pretty hard for me. I am so weak. I have not yet recovered my strength by a long shot. No time for writing now. So good bye to all. The fleas bite like the D-I herè. Don't sleep more than half the time.

Tuesday the 19th Oct. 1858. — The day is warm. The sun is shining very hot. How beautiful it is to view the rolling waves of the Pacific from where I am seated. Dead Man's Island is in sight from here. We expect the steamer down from San Francisco to morrow.

Wednesday 20th of Oct. 1858. — The Steam Boat arrived this morning. There was quite a number of passengers & a great deal of Freight. It will be a hard days work far into day taking care of the Freight. I am all right.

Thursday 21st 1858. — It took us untill midnight last evening before we got through landing Freight. The Boat left last evening just at sun set for San Diego. A number of Passengers went from this Port. I feel first rate.

Friday the 22d of Oct. 1858. — I have finished my work at San Pedro. Mr. Banning has more hands than he wants. The day is windy !& very cold.

Saturday 23d Oct. /58. — This morning I left San Pedro for Los Angeles. Arrived at the place just at sun down. I Put up at the Mechanics Hotel. A very good one . . .

Sunday the 24th of Oct. 1858. — Last evening I was disturbed by a disagreeable Diarrhea. Yet I am all right this morning. A horse race comes off this afternoon weather warm & pleasant.

Monday 28 Oct. 1858. — Left Town & came to Davis & Henderson ranch, 8 miles from Los Angeles. I have felt very well for the last two days, considering my previous health. There was four of us in the waggon this morning coming here & we had a little W . . . Y with us of course. Boy Tommy felt rich from the effects of it. To morrow I commence my labor on the ranch for my health. I hope I may improve. Fleas are not quite so troublesome as they were at San Pedro. Though very annoying here. By Holland how they bit some times.

Thursday the 26th of Oct. 1858. — This day I have commenced my work for Mr. Davison & Co. The day is pleasant. Ploughing has been my employment.

Wednesday the 27 of Oct. /58. — Don't like working.
"By . . .

Thursday 28 Oct. 1858. — I am feeling very sore. My legs are aching like the D . . . I it being the first traveling work I have done in a long time. I am all right otherwise.

Friday 28th Oct. 1858. — D . . n tired.

Saturday 30th of Oct. 1858. — I feel bad this morning. Though Damn it, as the saying is.

Sunday the 31st of Oct. 1858. — I thank my "God" for this day rest. I wish the Sabbath day would come oftener . . . I feel quite well this morning my nights rest are very good. Though I became a little Coal towards morning. The days are warm & pleasant. I have taken bathe & changed my Clothes today, besides doing a "heap" of other things to numerous to mention, or have anything to say about. I have eaten to many Pares for one thing today. I fear they will give me trouble in the night. Yet it can't be helped. What a strange world.

Monday, Novm. 1st 1858. — Weather clear & warm.

Tuesday 2d of Nov. 1858. — Had a feast last night.

Wednesday 3d Nov. 1858. — The morning was very foggy & cold, Yet we are having a very beautiful day. The Grass is springing up like Spring in the North. It is now good feed for Cattle & other stock.

Thursday the 4th Nov. 1858. — I am following the Plough As usual. How long will I be obliged to do this. Not long I hope.

Friday the 5 of Nov. 1858. — I have been to Los Angeles to day. Had lots of grapes & Pares.

Saturday Nov. 6th, 1858. — A wild horse I have been driving to day. He feels his Oats. The day is very warm.

Sunday the 7th 1858. — Blessed by our redeemer for an other Sabbath day. A day of rest to the labor. Who have toiled the six long days & earnt his honest living by the sweat of his brow. The day is beautiful & the ground & scenery about has the appearance of Spring. I am feeling fine, have taken a good bathe & done some washing. The other boys have enjoyed themselves first rate &c.

Monday the 8th Nov. 1858. — 'Tis a beautiful morning & everything looks cheerful. How glad I would be if I could express myself in words that I would not be ashamed if read by others. Though I cannot work is my lot and damned disagreeable it is.

Tuesday the 9 Novm. 1858. — All things right boys cheerful.

Wednesday 10 Novm. 1858.—We move to the other ranch to day 8 miles above here.

Thursday 11th 1858. — Our New House is quite or can be made very comfortable. The house is made of Dobys.

Friday 12th Novm. 1858. —

Saturday 13 Novm. 1858. — Hard at work. Good health, fine spirits. Plenty to eat & Drink.

Sunday the 14 Novm. 1858. — Our Party which consists of 26 persons are all spared to witness an other Sabbath day How Bright their Countanences and how happy they all feel to have a day of rest. Some are writing letters to their distant friends, while others are singing & dancing and Keeping the times lively. How pleasant it is to have time pass away in this manner. I am daily growing better. My weight is now 170 lbs. that is more than I ever weighed before. It will not be long before I will have letters from Home. How good.

Monday the 15 Novm. 1858. — All is well. Boys at work.

Tuesday 16 Novm. 1858. — Weather fine. Cold nights.

Wednesday 17 Novm. 1858. — Good news from the Gilla River. Gold plenty. Boys excited.

Thursday the 18 Nov. 1858. — Horse Mired. Fell from a hill bank & landed in a mud hole. Bad luck. Who cares.

Friday the 19th Nov. 1858. — Read a letter from Mich. and one from Rowena, Penna.

Saturday the 20th Nov. 1858. — Boys cheerful. To morrow rest. The Boss has gone to town. Amen!

Sunday 21 Nov. 1858. — I am always happy to rest this day. It gives me time to mend my clothes, write to my friends & do all other little things to numerous to mention. I have been busy doing the above jobs today. Three of our men have gone to Town. Some to see the Girls, others to get their Tody & buy a few tricks for the boys at camp. Salt Lake went out this morning & Killed two Antelopes. A good day's work for him. To day is windy and looks like Rain. I wrote home to day.

Monday the 22d Nov. 1858. —

Tuesday the 23d Nov. 1858. —

Wednesday 24 Nov. 1858. —

Thursday 25 Nov. 1858. —

Friday 26 Nov. 1858. —

Saturday 27 Nov. 1858. —

Sunday 28 Nov. 1858. —

Yesterday I left off work for Davis & Henderson, making in all 29 days that I have worked. To day we all come to Los Angeles & got our pay. A great many of the boys got Drunk Before night. I am sober of course. I recd. a letter from J. F. Eddy to day from San Francisco — all well, day warm & pleasant.

Monday the 29 Novm. 1858. — I have been looking for employment, found none. Bought me a Knife & a Book.

Tuesday the 30 Nov. 1858. — This morning a man by the name of Panchoiel Daniel was Hung by a mob. I went to see him perform — He was Hung on the gait Part of the Jail House. He died very easy. Men were there with guns & Pistols & a Brass Cannon, well prepared for a Battle. They expected there would be difficulty, yet all went well. I have answered J. F. Eddy's letter to day. I am well & growing fat & very saucy.

Wednesday Decm. 1st 1858. — I have made up mine mind to go to Kern River 150 miles above here (Los Angeles) My fare there will be \$14.00. I have written a letter to Arthemies my Dear Sister — and one to Uncle Royal.

Thursday 2d Decm. 1858. — The weather is very cold for this portion of country, can see plenty of snow on the Sierras. There is a circus here to night. I am all right, some lonely.

Friday the 3d of Decm. — Last night at 12 O'clock I took passage in the Overland Stage for Kern River. Reached the old Mission San Fernander at 3 O'clock A.M. The wind was blowing tremendous as we passed over the Sierra Nevada Mountains. I suffered some with cold during the night. Arrived at Fort Tehone at 5 O'clock P.M. reached my destination Kern River at 10 O'clock P.M.

Saturday Decm. 4 1858. — I am now remaining at the O. M. Station in Kern River. The day is warm & pleasant. Two are keeping here by the names of Albert & Vail. Fine fellows.

Sunday the 5 of Decm. 1858. — It is now raining in the Valleys but snowing in the Mts. Augustus Vail one who is attending here came from old Tioga County & is well acquainted with all those home Towns of mine.

Monday the 6 Decm. 1858. — This morning I left Kern River a foot and a lone expecting the stage would over take me in a few moments. Though unfortunately it did not untill after dark & I had traveled 26 miles from Kern River — At Willow Springs I took the stage again. Passed White River and also Tule River in the night. Country damned Ruff. Weather very cold. Stage riding is disagreeable. Plenty of Whiskey a board. A jolly set.

Tuesday the 7 Inst. 1858. — We were last night a bout two O'clock A.M. in a heavy fog, were a long time in finding our way to the next station. We reached the Town of Visalia at Breakfast time this morning. My foot is very sore from walking yesterday & I am very sleepy being up all last night. This place is quite a flourishing & entertaining Town. They are improving very fast. Many Brick buildings are going up. A Party at Billings Hotel to night. My place of abode.

Wednesday the 8t Inst. 1858. — A cold night we experienced though the sun is now shining bright & warm to day. The Overland Stage passed here to day full of Passengers.

Thursday the 9 Decm. 1858. — I have written a letter of J. F. Eddy —

Friday the 10th of Decm. 1858. — This morning received employment by the Overland mail company at \$30.00 per month. I am not able to do hard work yet, or I could get more wages. I am stationed 10 miles east of Visalia & Board with two men by the name of Putnam. There is plenty of "Acorns 'gals' or Maids of the Forest close by.

Saturday the 11 Dem. 1858. Last evening two men stayed all night with us & started for Visalia this morning. The weather appears very much like rain. All is well.

Sunday the 12 Decm. 1858
Monday the 13 Decm. 1858
Tuesday the 14 Decm. 1858
Wednesday the 15 Decm. 1858
Thursday the 16 Decm. 1858
Friday the 17 Decm. 1858
Saturday the 18th Decm. 1858.

Sunday the 19th Decm. 1858. The day is warm and pleasant. I enjoy good health in this beautiful climate. My weight is now 180 lbs. There has been a drove of Chinamen passed by here to day. They were going to Kern River mines. Success go with them. There is considerable travel on this road at present.

Monday the 20 Decm. 1858.
Tuesday the 21 Decm. 1858.
Wednesday the 22 Decm. 1858.
Thursday the 23 Decm. 1858.
Friday the 24 Decm. 1858.

Saturday the 25 Decm. 1858. This day is Christmas. I have passed the day very pleasantly. Had for dinner Spare Ribs, Sweet Potatoes, Preserves &c. At night five men came over here & got gentlemanly "light". The day is very pleasant. A Merry Christmas to you all. R. P.

Sunday the 26 Decm. 1858. I am feeling very well after Christmas. Some better than I did two years ago after indulging freely of Hams Bitters &c. A beautiful day we are having. We are all well. There is a Dutchman here & a man & his wife. Amusing themselves playing cards. Let them go it. By Gorry.

Monday the 27th of Decm. 1858. It is now raining very hard. People anticipated a heavy flood. Our well is caving. Very unfortunate for us.

Tuesday 28 Decm. 1858. — Bot me an over shirt. Charles has gone to town. Bot a load of wood. Paid 2.50 had lots of Company. The rain has subsided & the Weather looks fair.

Wednesday 29 Decem. 1858. A young man by the name of Coleman stoped with us last night. We had lots of fun with him.

Thursday the 30 Decm. 1858. — Weather fair. Health good.

Friday the 31st Decm. 1858. — This is the last day of the year & a warm pleasant day it is. I never saw nor experienced its equal at this season of the year. Charles & Isaac Putnam have gone to a Dancing party & I am left all alone this evening and am trying to pass the time pleasantly in writing to Brother Perley & Uncle R. The night is very dark.

Saturday the 1 of Jan. 1859. — We are having a splendid day for the commencement of the new year. Charles & Isaac came home this morning. Had a good time in Dancing. Coleman is here again, full of fun as usual.

Sunday the 2d of Jan. 1859. Nothing to say all quiet.

Monday the 3d of Jan. 1859. I received a letter from Perley and one from Arthemisa. Also one from Uncle R. and one from Helena Manton. A small note from James Sephieve at Los Angeles. They all brought glad news, & I feel some better.

Monday the 3d day of Jan. 1859. The overland stage passed by here with the pay master a board. Accompanied by Toms Road Agt. day cold no Travel.

Tuesday 4 Jan. 1859.

Wednesday the 5 Jan. 1859.

Thursday the 6 Jan. 1859.

Friday the 7 Jan. 1859.

Saturday the 8 Jan. 1859.

Sunday the 9 of Jan. 1859. — Isaac Putnam & myself have been out looking for Ducks &&& Some thing else not mention. Our days work proved very successful, though we did not accomplish the thing most desired. We have still good faith & think it will be all right on our next journey. Weather cloudy & cold.

Monday the 10 of Jan. 1859.

Tuesday the 11 of Jan. 1859.

Wednesday the 12 of Jan. 1859.

Thursday the 13 of Jan. 1859.

Friday the 14 of Jan. 1859.

The stage is due to day from St. Louis. The Blacksmith left yesterday. Mr. Lind called here to day & had a fine time. The Doctor George of Visalia was here at the same time & we all had game of cards.

Saturday the 15 Jan. 1859.

Sunday the 16th day of Jan. 1859. — Nothing of any importance.

Monday the 17 Jan. 1859.

Tuesday the 18 Jan. 1859.

Wednesday the 19 Jan. 1859.

Thursday the 20 Jan. 1859.

Friday the 21 Jan. 1859.

Saturday the 22 Jan. 1859.

Sunday the 23 Jan. 1859.

Isaac Putnam & my humble self have been out a Duck hunting to day as usual, accomplished nothing as we expected. Bad luck for young men. We had a fine walk. Four or five young men called on us today. We had jovial times. Weather is warm & pleasant.

Monday the 24 of Jan. /59.

Tuesday the 25 of Jan. /59. — A man Broke Jail in Visalia. He cleared out Barefooted. No idea of finding him. "Let him rip."

Wednesday the 26th of Jan. 1859.

Thursday the 27th of Jan. 1859.

Indians by the wholesale. Some pretty squaws among them. How captivating.

Sunday the 13 of Feb. 1859. — I have just finished a letter for Perley & one for the Post Master at Los Angeles. The weather has been muddy & rainy for the last week. Isaac Putnam left here to weeks ago last Thursday. Charles Recd. a letter from him yesterday. He was then in San Francisco about leaving for Nevada. I am all right. Health good, think some of going to the Colorado. I am still at my old stand doing duty.

Saturday April 1, 1859. — I am now out of employment, having finished my work yesterday for the O. M. Co. I am Also under the Doctors care I have already Paid for his Physis \$29.00 & hope it will not be necessary to indulge much longer in the disagreeable beverage. The O. M. Co. owes me \$90. Dollars & I owe out of that \$45.00. My trunk I expect will be here in a week or two. I have not seen it since I left Fort Yuma at the Colorado some 7 months ago. The weather has been very windy and cold for the last week. Snow lies from 6 to 8 feet on the Mountains some 40 miles from here. Opposition steamers are crossing the Ocean and carrying people to the states for 10 Dollars a head, cheap passage that. I am still with Charles Putnam. The Indians are very numerous here, have frequent calls from them especially the squaws or Moha's. Times are hard in Cal. Poor D---ls are cussing the country down to the lowest mark. How I feel for them. "In a horri."

Decm. 3d of Saturday 1859. Eight months have passed away since I last omitted writing in my interestin journal. Though I am again determined to put down a few more items this winter. As this will undoubtedly be my last winter in California. During the passed months I have enjoyed fine health and made some money. I have lived mostly alone, and 10 miles east of Visalia where I am now residing but not alone. I have plenty of Company, such as it is. In the month of June & July we had

warm weather. Thermometer high as 110 to 115 degrees. There has been a great many Robbers & Murders caught in this vicinity during the last summer. My friend Charles Putnam had the luck to get married in Sept. How Strange! He has got him a fine looking wife, intelligent & industrious. Wouldn't I be glad to find me such an help mate. "My Gorry" it would be the making of me. I have not much time to spare in writing. And it don't take but little time to tell all I know. Therefore I will say a few words for to day & close. We have just been having a good long rain & the grass is now looking green & beautiful. In one weeks time there will be excellent feed for stock on the Plains. The Monts. are well covered with the cold sheet of winter Snow. In one days travel I could go to the Mts. and back home. You are aware therefore that winter is close by us but we feel it not. In a short time from now we will have flowers blooming in the valley & all things will appear & look like Welcome spring in my native state Penna. I am feeling robust and hearty. I am well versed in the ways of a Californian. Think I'm one of the "Plugs" can Drink Whiskey &c.

Decm. 7th 1859. — We have had beautiful weather for the passed four days. Every thing is growing in splendor, and I reckon I am growing more independent. I have my own way in most things now adays. I have a kind man working for me for \$16.00 He commenced working the 9 ultimo. To day I have been riding a horse Back at about in this vicinity, looking for some of my loose property. Had good luck enough to find my "Bear Pig" that being all my property running at large. I feel contented to day having done my duty.

Travel is very brisk on the road. Many emigrants are coming in the valley this winter & as a general thing they bring lots of Girls. How fortunate that is for some of us old Bachelors. We may yet get married if they still keep arriving from Texas. They are beautiful & very captivating creatures "I'll tell you." I must stop, consider & pause.

Decm. 13, 1859. It is now cloudy and foggy & has been so for the five days past. This morning we had a very light rain. The stage passed by to day full of Passengers for San Francisco. Herkenmer Pitnam leaves Visalia to day for his Dear Home in Canada. How I wish I could go with him. Yesterday I had the pleasure of Dining with or in Company with two American Ladys. Lately from Sonora, Mexico. They were "Sum." We also had a social game for the Whiskey. How captivating & lovely they were. I could hardly bear to have them leave they were so agreeable & entertaining company. But they would smoke cigars & do other small tricks. I sent home a letter or rather mailed one to day. I am feeling some lonely just now. "But I am a man for aw that."

1859 Sunday 25 Decm. 1859. To day is Christmas & we are having a warm Sunny day to enjoy ourselves in partaking of all the rarities that is generally exchanged in on this Holly-day. Egg-nog will have to suffer in this portion of the Country. I have been invited to attend a party of that kind, but happily declined. The weather since the 15 Inst. has been dismal. The sun has shown but a very little. We had quite a rain last evening. The grass is growing very fast. Stock can now do well on the Plains. I attended a dancing party last Friday Eve. Had a time, was thrown from a Horse & got lost in the woods. Though no damage done, I was feeling very poorly Saturday You Bet. I shall attempt a Christmas Party on the 27 Inst. at Visalia. Bill 7.00. There will be very large attendance. This is my third Christmas from my old home in Penna. I would like very well to eat turkey with them at Home. A happy Christmas to you all.

June 15th 1860.—There was one hundred couple at the party on the 27th of Decm./59.—We all enjoyed ourselves exceedingly well. I was feeling very rich the next day. I remember. Since then I have attended a great many parties & have taken many pretty Damsels with me to them. I have found out they are very expensive & shall not be quite so anxious after this to attend them. Nearly six months have passed away since I have written in this Book. During which time many things have occurred of note & ought to have been noted down in my journal. Dave C. Broderick our Senator from California has gone to his silent grave. He was killed by Judge Terry in fighting a duel.

June 16, 1860 (continued) Frederick Story of Visalia was Killed on the 8 of June /60 When fighting the Indians in the vicinity of Washo. He was capt. of the Virginia Company & was well liked by all who knew him his death was much regreted — He leaves a Young Daughter of eleven years of age, his wife having long since been dead. It is awful to think that such good men as he must lose their lives by these human shaped Devils, The California Indians. The County is now all excited by the many murders that have occurred in the Vicinity of Washo. Jackson Hase has the command of seven hundred men & is now fighting the Indians. There is now 9 hundred Noble hearted volunteers on their way to join him. Their intentions are to Kill the last Indian they can find & even go to the Mormon settlements. Many think the Indians are led on by the Mormons, if so their fate will be a hard one. I wish them success and hope they will subdue their enemy.

This County (Tulare) has improved very much since January /59. One would hardly believe how fast the County is settling up. People have now large farms and Vineyards, also a good

supply of all Kinds of fruits, together with all that is needed to make ones home Comfortable & happy. We have a climate here in California that is not equaled which does more to keep the people from their distant Home in the North than all her Gold. I have thought seriously of making my home in Cal. During the winter my health was good. Weather warm & pleasant. A light frost was all we had in the valley the past winter. Snow on the mountains was very deep, people say it was 15 feet deep in many places. I have never taken a trip upon the Sierra Nevada Mts. A beautiful place of resort in the summer season & I will try & go this summer. I cannot think of anything more of any importance that has transpired during the winter. Therefore I will commence anew.

Tule River Cay. June 18th 1860. — I have been living on Tule River about six weeks. It is 27 miles from the City of Visalia & a beautiful place for stock and Ranches. The stream is well supplied with water and nearly the size of Tioga River in Penna. My stay on Tule will be short.

Tuesday June 19th 1860. — My rest last evening was disturbed very much from the sharp bills of the numerous misquitos. They are mighty thick here and well skilled in their damnable business of drawing blood. The day has past off very quiet. No fights worth mentioning. Origin Wilcox came back from Town. He says the town was all drunk last night on account of the Telegraph having reached there. They intend to reach Los Angeles with the Telegraph by the 4th of July next. We shall then receive the news from the states some 5 days sooner than heretofore. The weather is hot and dry. The excitement of Mono Lake this spring proved to be not quite so rich as expected. Many persons are daily returning with pockets dry — I am feeling a little down, that is, Bad.

Tule River Cal. June 20th 1860. — Thursday I am still a live and living alone as usual. I have thought some of taking me a wife. To pass away this long tedious life. Though girls are scarce in this country & its not often that you can get one of the right color. Therefore I will live the old Bachelors life and not be tormented with a California Wife. I was provoked to wrath (as Pa says) last night by the inhuman Misquitos. I shall leave the river soon as possible and get rid of them. I have received a paper from Arthemise. The Willsborough Democrat. I like very much to read a paper from home. The paper does not speak very highly of the Planks Walks in Covington. They look more like Cattle pathes than side walks for an enterprising Borrough. The Telegrah men have called on me to day & say they will have the wire as far as Tule River this week.

Tule River; June 21st. Thursday 1860. — I have done nothing of any importance to day. Drank a little more of Old Tom Gin than I ought to. Have been acrossed the River to Charles Putnams. I found 4 men drunk there. fine specimens they were of California. My Horse Broke loose from me When at Charles & the consequence was, I had to walk home & wade the River besides. The water was not very cold. I had Dr. George & his partner stay with me last evening. I have not caught my horse yet & think he will have to go all night with the saddle on him. I noticed that he had got the Macheses off & probably I will never find them. I am quite sleepy & will retire. Good night.

Tuesday, June 26. Tule River, 1860. — I have omitted writing for five days. I am sorry to know that I met with quite a misfortune a few days ago, but will not mention it. A common occurrence in California, However. The Telegraph holes & Poles will be finished this far this evening. I sent a letter to Arthemise by Overland Mail last week, it was mailed at Tule River Post office. I am feeling down hearted to day from the effects of what has befallen me.

I caught my horse the next morning on the 23rd Inst. He was feeling fine. I have sold \$10.00 worth to the Indians to day. There was some pretty Squaws among them. I have Recd. one hundred dollars from John Penleton to day. Money that I lent him 5 month.

Wednesday June 27, 1860 Tule River. I was very sick last night. Had a severe pain & cramping in my bowels. I could not sleep. I am feeling some better this morning, though have no appetite. The Misquitoes are so thick by the River that it drove people on to the foot hills to take their nights rest. I have been just about half murdered by these inhuman creatures. I received two Bottles of medicine from Dr. Roberts. Visalia. I hope it will be good for what ails me. I sold my Hay rack to Charles Putnam for two Dollars. He owes me now some two hundred & fifty Dollars which I am to Rec.d. in two months. Pete Goodhue & Tom Matten the man that owns the Indian farm near here to day Took dinner & remained untill five O'clock P.M. When they left for the Indian farm three miles distant. They pass the night there.

Thursday 28 of June 1860. — All is well. Mr. Goodhue & Matten returned this morning. They enjoyed themselves well. I suppose they did for the large Bottle of Whiskey they took was disposed in a very gentleman manner. The report. Indians doing well.

Friday the 29 June 1860. — I am sick, came very nigh dying last night. I was taken ill last evening very sudden. My pain was mostly in the stomach. Vomiting & Groaning was the order

of the night. There was one man from Province R. I. that stayed with me during the night. I am feeling some better to day. Tho am damned miserable at that — I have bot more barley of Indian Charley. I am taken Laudanum for my medicine. I am awful in pain.

Saturday 30th of June 1860. — I rested well last night. I am improving fast. I have no appetite yet. The day is cool and pleasant. I am reading Tales of My Land Lord or the Heart of Mid-Lothian. A very interesting book. The O. M. Stage just past here. The Wild Duchman or Nivk was driving. They are making great preparation in Town to celebrate the 4th of July.

July the 1st Sunday 1860. — The day is beautiful. This month has surely made a great start. Many people have passed on their way to Owens Lake & that vicinity. They are mostly prospectors, & looking for something rich. I received a letter from Arthemise. My people are well. I have at the Tule River Post office Recd. my Delta. Turce's dog has killed 8 of my Pigs. I am feeling desperate now, G-d d-n.

July 2d Monday 1860. — The day is quite cool. The Minstrels have been here to day. They all took Dinner with me. They played 3 nights in Visalia. Had good Houses.

July 3d Tuesday 1860. — Yesterday evening I went over to outside creek some 25 miles from here. I went to see my Ranch. Found out that Robert Douglass my Partner on the Ranch had sold it and Run away. I shall lose about \$300.00. I took supper at the Bob Grayhams & stayed over night at Mr. Millers. I returned home to day at 12 o'clock. Found all right. I have past this evening at C. Putnam. Drank Old Tom jin, feel good. Played cards & won half a Dollar & a can of oysters. Good luck.

Wednesday, July 4th 1860. — I am feeling quite bad from the effects of Drinking & eating the many Oysters last night. I have coffee & Eggs for my breakfast. I distroyed six eggs. A large celebration takes place in Visalia to day. I shall not be there. My sick Hog is better. He will make out to live I think. This is the 84 anniversary of American Independence. Long may it be remembered. I have 200 Dollars in my pockets. I have been at PintDook & saw one or two Horse races. Though Drinking Whiskey was generally the order of the day. I have commenced a letter to Arthemise & will finish it tomorrow. Mr. White I had the pleasure of seeing.

July Thursday the 5th 1860. — News came from Visalia that a man was Killed Yesterday on the 4th. He was shot twice and killed Immediately. He was shot by Drunken Brown. The man's name was Bolling. I received a paper from Home sent by Alsino Putnam. Weather good.

Friday the 6th 1860 July. — We have had a cool & pleasant day. Pointdexter has called on me to day. I rode with him to the Indian reservattion. Stayed all night & had a good time generally. Cage Tucker is the overseer of the Indians. I found Dr. Kelly with him. He had come home with Cage to spend a few days in the country for his health. There was plenty of Whiskey & we occasionally took a dram.

— Saturday July 7th, 1860. — I came home from the Indian reservation about 9 O'clock A.M. found all right at home. I had new Irish Potatoes & Green Corn for the first time this year for my Breakfast. Bears killed a sheep yesterday, it was very fat. I had the pleasure of eating a piece of its hind quarter and I have been at Charles Putnam. They were all just about so-so. I expect company to night & will close. I hope they will not disappoint me for I feel like —

· Sunday July 8th 1860. Hot as Hell. I start for McWingfield this evening. He lives on Deer Creek seven miles from Tule River. Arrived at Deer Creek at 8 Oclock P.M. found all Drunk.

Monday the 9 of July 1860. — Left McWingfield for Robert Gilberts two miles distant. Gilbert not at home. Saw his wife which answered all purposes. Arrived home at 12 Oclock A.M. Took dinner at C. D. Putnam & left for Mr. Wilcox's some 8 miles up the river. Arrived at my destination at supper time. Had Milk & Bread for supper.

Tuesday July 10th 1860. — I was feeling rather under the weather this morning. Had a good bed to sleep in and Mrs. Wilcox cooked a first rate Breakfast this morning. I bot a Hog of Wilcox paid \$10.00. Arrived home at 12 A.M. Mr. Duncan arrived here today with his sheep. He is a good man I think, & Partner of Ned Hart.

July 11, Wednesday 1860. — Had Mr. Duncan Waggon & went to Wilcox & Brot home my two hogs. Stopped at the Indian reserve & had two nice Water Melons to eat. Mr. Grayham & Mr. Flemona were there. I reached home with my two Hogs at sun down. All right.

Thursday July 12 1860. — I have had Indian Lewes to wash for me to day. He done it up Brown. My two strang Hogs stay at Home. I have been at C. D. Numan. Bot 1/2 gallon of Whiskey & a pare of overhauls. I am now going to bed but will have to take a small decoration of the Ardent Spirits first. Here I go — Good night.

Friday 13th 1860 July. — To day I went to Samuel Lewis. Stayed all night. Had a fine time. I have taken J. P. Murry note for \$400.00 all is right.

Saturday July 14 1860. — A Stranger stayed at My House last night. Begged his way & consequence was stole about \$15.00 worth When he left in the Morning. That is life in California. I received 4 Gal. of Good Whiskey from Visalia. I have just sampled it & find it "Wano." My health is very good.

Sunday 15th of July, 1860. — There has been Preaching on Tule River for two days. Saturday & Sunday. I am sorry to say I was not there to join in with my brothers & have a time. I have been reading most of the day. Took a fine bathe this evening. I have bot 10 Dollars worth of Barley of the Indians. Had the pleasure of look on a beautiful Squaw. How charming to us here. Tom Heston & others passed by on their way to the new discovered Silver miles in the vicinity of Owens Lake. Success go with them. Misquitoes are not so troublesome tonight as usual.

Monday July 16th 1860. — We have had a very warm day. the Hotest of the Season. Have been down to Mr. Pearce's & weighed my Hay. He has Brought me one load to day. I have traded a few dollars with the Natives — All is well & about so-so. I expect to sweat to morrow when I taken care of my hay as Turner hauls it to me.

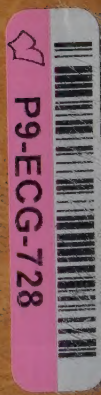
Tuesday 17 of July 1860. — I have been at work. Weather hot. I am feeling well.

Monday the 23d of July 1860. — Since I wrote I have been at Visalia. Stayed two days in the City & saw the Elephant. I think some of going in Town to live & work at the Dentistry with Dr. I. C. Kelly. I have received no Papers from Home in a long time. I am in good health & feel out of humor. Colonel John C. Fremont was at my house this morning. He was looking well & felt like a defeated candidate. I had a long talk with him. He appeared quite sociable. He is not very large nor very intelligent judgeing from his looks. He remained with me some 3 hours. Bot a small la & other tricks & started on his way rejoicing. He was going to Fort Johnson & from there to Los Angeles. I hope him a pleasant journey.

July 30th 1860. Monday. Since the 24th Instant we have had tremendous warm weather. I have taken my Hogs over to Mr. Weatherbees. He is going to keep them on shares. I had 60 head taken large & small. I have been quite sick for the two last days. Have got a bad cold & my Bowels pain me. I am now selling out fast as possible. I intend to live in Visalia when I leave Tule River.

(Ed. note: This ends the Journal of Royal Porter Putnam. It is not known just what he did during the next several months,

but by late in 1861 he had built a store and stopping place along the Emigrant trail at what is now the northeast corner of Main and Oak street, originally called Porter's Place, then Portersville; construction of the store and stopping place by Porter Putnam marked the beginning of the present City of Porterville.)



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